IROQUOIS INDIANS:

A Documentary History of the Diplomacy of the Six Nations and Their League

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Published for the D'Arcy McNickle Center
for the History of the American Indian
at the Newberry Library

rp
research publications
Woodbridge, CT Reading, England
1984

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This work was made possible through the assistance of a research grant from the National Endowment for the Humanities.

INTRODUCTION

This compilation is like none other in the world. It is an archive of documents made by and concerning a people without scribes, documents recorded by other parties and originally filed away obscurely in repositories devoted to other interests. Because the League of the Iroquois and its constituent Six Nations negotiated diplomatically with the agents of empires, provinces, and nation-states, as well as with other Indian nations, Iroquois treaty documents came to rest in The Netherlands, France, Great Britain, Canada, and the United States, and in many state and private collections, in all of which the Iroquois documents were secondary to the thousand and one concerns of Europeans and Euro-Americans. Now these many scattered collections have been culled to create the first authentic archive of an indigenous tribal people.

Strictly speaking, an archive consists of the documents generated by an agency or institution, but we may think in terms of an imaginary Iroquois foreign office whose papers were destroyed in an imaginary fire, being preserved only in the copies made for other parties to negotiations. With that fiction in mind, what we have here is a reconstituted archive. Regardless of problems of definition, it is a body of texts exceedingly important to genuinely reconstituting the history of the United States and its predecessor colonies and native peoples.

The Iroquois League was a great military and political power in North America during the seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. Its importance was recognized by contemporary statesmen of competing European empires and colonies, who vied with each other to secure Iroquois friendship and alliance. After 1700, the Iroquois policy of neutrality maintained a balance of power between the empires that lasted until the Seven Years War, and the Iroquois nations were wooed by Britain and the United States during the War of the American Revolution. It is not possible to write a valid political history of eastern North America during the era preceding the Revolution without carefully considering Iroquois participation in the most important events of the time; and the basis of the Northwest Ordinances of 1784-87 was the treaty made at Fort Stanwix between the United States and the Iroquois in 1784.

Though the Iroquois League fragmented during the American Revolution and its people are now scattered on Canadian and American reservations, and individually as far as Hawaii, their history after the Revolution became inextricably part of the history of the Great Lakes region and of the vast intersocietal trade that moved westward across the continent. Defying dogmas of the vanishing Indian, more Iroquois are now alive than were previously recorded at any one time.

The major problem in studying Iroquois participation in North American history has been the scattered and unreliable condition of the source materials. A large number were virtually inaccessible. Most have never been validated by critical examination for omissions, variance between copies, or other contradiction by other contemporary documents. In national and state archives, Iroquois treaties are submerged in the general material, their arrangement and cataloging ill-suited to the study of indigenous peoples; and indexes are at best inadequate, often erroneous and misleading. There is continuing attrition of source manuscripts, identifiable by later references to documents that no longer can be found.

Now, however, most of the problems of access have been solved by the archive presented herein; and comparison of documents has been facilitated. The documents included were compiled by a project begun in September 1978 at the D'Arcy McNickle Center for the History of the American Indian at the Newberry Library. Funded for three years by the Research Division of the National Endowment for the Humanities, and staffed by a historian and three anthropologists with the assistance of many temporary aides, the project initially aimed at compiling less than 3,000 texts, but even the specialists had badly underestimated Iroquois diplomatic activity and its involvements. The documents piled up to three times the original estimate, and the project's actual duration extended past its formal closing for three more years. It has been completed nevertheless, largely owing to the dedicated support of the Newberry Library and donation of labor by the staff. Many generous contributions by individuals and institutions are acknowledged below.

Project staff made no effort to collect original source documents. Instead, it copied them by microphotography or xerography and made paper copies of all documents to be filed in an archive at the Newberry. This publication reproduces that archive. It is open to addition as new documents come to light, and students are solicited to send information about such new documents to the Newberry: The archive's calendar is available on a computer printout at the Newberry, and a card index of names and subjects refers to about one-sixth of the documents on file. Access may be had by qualified students. An indexed document is noted as such by a degree sign after the date of the document on the headnote to the document and in the calendar. Regrettably the index could not be completed because of lack of funds, but it is useful in combination with the calendar. Both are printed in the guide that accompanies this film. A reader may wish to scan the calendar for context before concentrating on particular documents. Calendar and index, especially when used together, are finding aids for the location of particular documents and sets of related documents.

ABOUT THE TEXTS

What They Are

The documents presented here include the minutes of treaty conferences, the agreements resulting from formal meetings, and a broad range of background materials useful for interpreting motives, procedures, and effects. The editors' basic standard for selection was relevance to the diplomatic history of Iroquois nations or their league. Other parties involved in the negotiations are also included.

Most of the documents are manuscript or printed texts arranged in chronological order. Often it has been possible to compile copies of the same text from different sources, and sometimes these are variant, sometimes significantly so. All copies are included. Texts in languages other than English are presented but only rarely translated.

Photographs of wampum belts are also included as representing Indian records of negotiations. In almost all instances, it has not been possible to identify a particular belt with a specific written record, and the editors have concluded regretfully that the belts cannot be deciphered by a general code. Nevertheless certain conventional patterns have been observed, so the belts are grouped according to emblematic content, following the last written text at the end of the microfilm publication.

The documents span a period from the earliest surviving sixteenth century texts through the year 1842.

How They Were Copied

The editors depended on many archives and repositories for exact xerographic copies of original documents in their possession. Their valuable cooperation was unstinted, but the variety of their facilities for copying prevented the adoption of a uniform reduction ratio. Therefore, although the final microfilming at Research

Publications was done at a constant reduction ratio, there is no constant relation between the relative size of documents on our film and the actual dimensions of the originals.

The integrity of the documents was the editors' foremost concern. No document has been altered. Very few extractions were made and they are noted in every case. No marks were made by us on copies received except, in some cases, for bold editorial lines with arrows, to denote the beginning and end of a document. Such indications were also used to note overlapping when a large page had to be copied in sections.

The editors aimed at comprehensiveness. This objective required inclusion of some texts so mutilated or faint in the original as to be minimally legible. These are given nevertheless for whatever information can be extracted from them. Some are more legible in the technically enhanced copies than in the originals.

As in all publications, the originals remain the ultimate source to be consulted when issues of textual validity arise. The location of every document is given in a headnote.

How They Are Presented

Each entry consists of a headnote with the document's date, a brief description, and the source, followed by the document itself. In a few cases a translation or annotation will follow the document.

Each headnote description reflects the perspective of the document rather than editorial comment about it. As descriptions were often taken from catalogs or notations of source repositories, spelling of names is not standardized. Editorial remarks, if present, appear in parentheses or annotations.

Bracketed dates have been assigned by the editors. Single documents are given with the date when written regardless of the time referred to in their contents. This has been done because documents are products of the time and circumstances when written, and these may seriously affect interpretation of the contents. To preserve textual integrity, some texts have been included as found in collections of documents spanning a period of time which is so dated: e.g., 1645-Sept 1654. Multiple copies of the same document, same date, are distinguished as Document I, Document II, etc., and filed in sequence under their common date.

If a document is dated more than one year from the date of the treaty to which it pertains, it is cross-referenced under the treaty date. Because of the prolonged nature of many treaty negotiations, users should scan the compilation's calendar to find appropriate documents within a year of any event of interest. Although cross-references refer to specific documents, distinguished by Roman numerals in cases in which there is more than one document of the same date, references to other documents in editorial remarks within descriptions of a particular document do not make use of Roman numerals to distinguish between documents of the same date. In these cases, all documents of the date cited should be checked for the reference.

The editors have not tried to reconcile or adjust dates in the Old Style Julian calendar used by the English for many years after the French and Dutch had changed over to the New Style Gregorian calendar. Dates are given herein as they appear on the documents. When the English finally changed over, they often gave both new and old dates on the same text; in such instances the editors opted for the New Style annotation.

The project staff has compiled and edited a printed reference manual to assist in interpreting the texts, and we urge that it be kept handy during research. It is _The History and Culture of Iroquois Diplomacy: An Interdisciplinary Guide to the Treaties of the Six Nations and Their League (Syracuse: Syracuse University Press, 1984)._ It is a volume for quick and easy reference, self-contained but especially useful in conjunction with this compilation of documents.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This archive could not have been compiled without the generous contributions of counsel and materials from many persons and agencies. No one is intentionally left out of the following list. Pardon is asked for any inadvertent omission.

Indian people: Early in the project, Richard Powless and Paul Williams of the Union of Ontario Indians provided a list of treaty documents. Seven persons from the Union of Ontario Indians visited the project from 23rd to 29th June 1979 and offered comments and suggestions. Phil Monture, Land Researcher at Six Nations Reserve shared knowledge of locations of source materials. George Abrams, Director of the Seneca Iroquois National Museum on the Allegany Seneca Reservation, and Ramona Charles, Librarian at the Community House on the Tonawanda Seneca Reservation, provided information about the location of materials. Tribal historians from different political persuasions on fellowship at the Center discussed the project with staff members during their residence: Norbert Hill and Sandra Orie came from the Oneida Reservation in Wisconsin, and Douglas George, recommended by the "traditional" Mohawk Nation, came from the St. Regis (Akwesasne) Reservation. Everett White, born and raised at St. Regis (Akwesasne), provided valuable information about documents based on his former experiences as an Indian Health Service employee and his personal interest in the history of his people. Most important information and advice were given on a visit by Cayuga Chief Jacob E. Thomas who represents the Cayuga nation in the Grand Council of the Houdenosaunee and teaches in Trent University, Peterborough, Ontario. On 22nd May 1980, Chief Thomas made a joint presentation with Dr. Michael K. Foster, Iroquoian Ethnologist of the Canadian National Museum of Man. At a colloquium at the Newberry, they showed slides and facsimile artifacts and explained symbols in terms of Iroquois custom. Through the following day, Chief Thomas held nonstop conversation with project staff who took extensive notes and taped his analyses of certain wampum belts. He continued in correspondence afterward. Informal visitors to the project included Charles Patton and Tyler Hemlock, Caughnawaga (Kahnawake) Mohawks; and Alice Armstrong and Helen Laughing, Mohawks employed in the Demographic Office, Mohawk Tribal Offices, St. Regis Reservation.

When Associate Director Mary A. Druke traveled to Indian communities, she was received hospitably everywhere. Indians of Onondaga, including Oren Lyons, Irving Powless, Jr., and Irving Powless, Sr., though unsympathetic to the project, received her graciously and explained their attitudes. Information about documentary material and oral traditions were provided to her by residents of the following Indian communities: Allegany; Cattaraugus; Caughnawaga (Kahnawake), Onondaga, St. Regis (Akwesasne), Six Nations Reserve; Tonawanda; and Tuscarora.

Project Aides:

Consultants. Charles Gehring, of the New York State Library, Manuscripts, provided notes on Dutch manuscripts in the Livingston Family Papers at the Franklin D. Roosevelt Library. Paul Stevens, a Fellow at the McNickle Center, compiled and annotated source documents of the era of the American Revolution. Another McNickle Center Fellow, Professor Richard Haan, contributed copies of odd documents he had been collecting for ten years. Mary Ann Mayes searched William N. Fenton's files and compiled a list of cited Iroquois documents. Lieutenant Commander C. McD. Stuart, RN, searched uncalendared treaty texts at the Public Record Office of Great Britain and arranged for transmission of copies. Paul Grey, graduate student at the University of London, acted as liaison between the project staff and the Public Record Office in acquiring documents ordered by the staff. Professional indexer Elin Christianson advised on indexing procedures. Major F.E.G. Bageshawe, of Matlock, England, provided photographs of a wampum belt in private hands.

Office employees at various times included Nancy Kovitz; Peter Radke; Polly Strong, University of Chicago graduate student; Andrew Tobin, Bennington College student; Karli Erica White. Wesley Andrews arranged much of the final organization of the archive files. The project was also helped by several students enrolled in undergraduate independent study seminars of the Association of the Colleges of the Midwest and the Great Lakes Colleges Association, whose wages were paid by the associations and the Newberry. David L. Ghere accomplished "last minute" tasks.

Volunteers included Claudette Alm; Jeanette Campanella; Lucy Caples; Herbert Furse; Ted Knutson; Nancy Kovitz; Dorothy Markowitz; Virginia Meyers; Noel O'Reilly; Mary Louise Ramsey; Mrs. Gerald Sivage. They sorted and identified the masses of documents arriving in the mails, and put them in order for editors' review.

Newberry Library staff. Special interest was maintained and special help provided by John Aubrey, Michael Kaplan, Steve Mandel, Terry Sullivan, and Michelene Fixico; and much gratitude is owed for the patience of Richard H. Brown.

Advice and information were exchanged with colleagues of the Atlas of Great Lakes Indian History project: Helen Hornbeck Tanner, Adele Hast, and Jacqueline Peterson. The members of the Conference on Iroquois Research and the American Society for Ethnohistory devoted three successive panel sessions to the project at annual meetings.

Institutions:

Special gratitude is owed to the Public Archives of Canada for its gift of copies of treaties and surrenders in its possession. Thanks must also be expressed to the Rochester [N.Y.] Museum and Science Center for its donation of photographs of its large collection of wampum belts. The University of Chicago made copyflo paper copies of microfilm at a minimal cost far below commercial prices. Research Publications sent a photographer without charge to film documents located at the Albany Institute of History and Art and at the New York State Archives in Albany. Work on the project was greatly facilitated by materials collected in research travel previous to the project and incorporated into project files. The American Philosophical Society made such research fellowship grants to Director Jennings and Associate Director Druke. Through such generous contributions, as well as time and energy given by individuals, the project managed to stay within its budget despite its massive increase in size. When the project could not be finished within its allotted three years, the Newberry Library financed it to completion.

Thanks are due to each repository, publication, or individual source of materials listed below which made available copies of materials in its collections. together they have made this publication possible.

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WHERE APPROPRIATE, DOCUMENTS AND WAMPUM BELTS IN THIS MICROFILM PUBLICATION ARE INCLUDED WITH THE KIND PERMISSION OF THE SOURCES LISTED ABOVE. IN OTHER INSTANCES, PERMISSION FOR INCLUSION WAS NOT GRANTED, AND IN THIS CASE, A REFERENCE TO THE DOCUMENT IS INCLUDED IN THE CALENDAR OF DOCUMENTS PUBLISHED IN THE GUIDE TO THIS COLLECTION. ON THE MICROFILM, A GAP IN THE SEQUENTIAL NUMBERING OF DOCUMENTS HEADED BY THE SAME DATE IS AN INDICATION OF A DOCUMENT DELETION DUE TO FAILURE TO OBTAIN REPRODUCTION PERMISSION.

At a Council held at Philadelphia on Thursday the 16th October, 1755.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &ca.

Robert Strettel,	William Logan,	Esquires.
Richard Peters,	Lynford Lardner,	

A Message by eight members to the Governor last night that the house was met according to Charter and had chosen their Speaker, and desired to know when & where they might present him.

A Message by the Secretary that the Governor with his Council was in the Council Chamber and ready to receive the House & their Speaker.

Isaac Norris, Esq., addressed the Governor, acquainting him that a full number of Representatives was met and had chosen him for their Speaker, which office he would execute with the Governor's Concurrence. The Governor approved their choice, and then Mr. Norris requested the usual Privileges.

After the Speaker and the House were withdrawn, the Governor informed the Council that several persons near the Boundaries of Maryland had been disturbed by Maryland Surveyors, and that on their several petitions he had wrote a Letter to Governor Sharpe, which was read in these words:

A Letter to Governor Sharpe from Governor Morris.

"Sir:

"I have received a petition from several of the Inhabitants of Air Townp. situate on the Waters of the Conolloways, a Branch of the River Potomack within the County of Cumberland, setting forth that they and their neighbours have been lately disturbed by some Officers and Surveyors from your Government, tho' they have for many Years paid Taxes within this Province, and have settled their Lands under the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania. They say, likewise, that some of their possessions have been lately surveyed by the Surveyors of Frederick County, in virtue of Warrants from Lord Baltimore's Land Office, and that they are threatened with an armed force as you will see by their Petition, which is Copied and herewith sent.

"It is a little surprizing that at such a time of Publick Danger & Calamity these unneighbourly practices should be carrried on, tho' I am very well persuaded they are unknown to you, and that you will discountenance them the moment you are told of them.

"It may happen that your people may have settled in some places northward of the Temporary Line and ours to the Southward of it, but if that Line be continued for a few Miles it will soon be known which of them are rightly settled. I therefore propose it to you to have this forthwith done, the month of November is one of the best in the Year for this service, and if begun then it may be finished before the severe Weather comes on.

"If this be agreeable to you I will issue a Commission to Mr. George Stevenson and Mr. John Armstrong, surveyors of the two Counties that border on the Temporary Line, and to join with any two you shall please to appoint for this purpose.

"I have sent orders to the Officers & Surveyors of the County of Cumberland not to disturb any persons settled under Lord Baltimore, nor to Survey the Lands on which any of your people are settled, and I must beg the favour of you to send the like orders to the Officers of Frederick County."

"I am, Sir, Your very humble Servant,

"ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS.

"PHILADELPHIA, 7th October, 1755."

The Governor then laid before the Board a Letter from Sir Thomas Robinson of the 19th of June, which he received last night inclosed in a Letter from Governor Dinwiddie. Likewise he ordered several Letters to be read & entered relating to Indian affairs, observing with concern that they had begun depredations in the neighbouring Colonies, and expressing his Fears that it would not be long before we might expect the like Treatment.

A Letter to Governor Morris from Conrad Weiser.

"Honoured Sir:

"By this I inform your Honour that my Sons are returned from Shamokin, where they have been by your Honour's order to acquaint our Friendly Indians of the Success of Gen$^{l.}$ Johnson against the French on Lake George. Sammy was poorly when your Honour's orders arrived, therefore did not care to venture alone, so took one of his Brothers with him. The Indians were exceedingly pleased with the news, and returned thanks to your Honour for giving them such early Notice.

"On the first of this Instant Tohashwuchtonirent (the belt) with Zigarea, James Logan, and Jonathan, arrived at my House & made the following Speech:

"'Brother Onas (the Belt Speaker): We let you know that upon certain News we received a few days ago from Oneido, one of the Six United Nations, We have agreed among ourselves to settle at Shamokin, and to summons and exort all our Indian Brethren to come and settle there and live and die with us.

"'We, therefore, desire you to supply us with Provision, Powder, Lead, Tobacco, and Vermillion, and as it is most certain by the last Message we received a few days ago from Oneido, that Warr is proclaimed between the Six United Nations and the French and their Allies, those of the Six Nations that have French hearts may go to their wicked Father Onontio (we hope a very few will), the Six United Nations with their Allies will certainly Chastize Onontio for his Wickedness. We pray Brother Onas & the people of Pennsylvania not to leave us in the lurch, but to supply us with necessaries to enable us to fight the French. This is the earnest request of us the Warriors, the Councellors, and our Wives and Children.' Here he gave a large string of Wampum.

"As to the provision, I explained to them the Resolve of the House of General Assembly, at which resolve they were glad and returned thanks.

"As to the ammunition, I told them I would send their Speech to Onas (the Governor of Pennsylvania), for him to consider it with the wise men of Pennsylvania who would soon meet, as soon as they resolved upon any thing, they, our Brethren the Indians at Shamokin, should know. They desired me to recommend their case in the best manner I could, and I promised to do it. The Indians will go away to-morrow. I have nothing to add, but am,

"Honoured Sir, Your very obedient,

"CONRAD WEISER.

"Heidelberg in Berks, October 4th, 1755."

A Letter from William Trent to Col^r. James Burd at Shippensburgh.

"MOUTH OF CONEGOCHEGE, Oct^r. Saturday 4, 1755.

"Sir:

"Last night came to the Mill at Wolgomoths an Express going to the Governor of Maryland with an account of the Inhabitants being out on Patterson's Creek; and about the Fort the Express says, there is forty killed and taken, and that one whole family was burnt to Death in an house. The Indians destroy all before them; firing Houses, Barns, Stackyards, and every thing that will burn. Jenny McClane, the Girl that lived with Fraser, was taken just by the Fort; the man that was with her had his Horse shot through, but carried him off; the mischief was all done partly at one time, Wednesday, between eight and ten o'clock in the forenoon, all the Inhabitants back are flying. I expect we shall soon be the Frontier; my Complements to Mrs. Burd, & I am,

"Sir, Your most humble servant,

"WILLIAM TRENT.

"Sunday Morning.

"Since I wrote the above, I see another express come down to get the Militia to raise, he says, two and forty they buried on Patterson's Creek within a few Miles of the Mouth, they durst not venture higher up, but as there is no word from any of them, without doubt they are all killed; and since they have killed more, and keep on killing, the woods is alive with them; how long will those in power by their Quarrels suffer us to be massacred? Its time for every body to provide for the safety of their Families.

"I am, Sir, Yours,

"W. T."

A Letter from George Croghan, Esqr., at Aughwick to Mr. Chas. Swaine at Shippensburg.

"AUGHWICK, October 9th, 1755.

"Dear Sir:

"On my return home I met with an Indian from Ohio who gives me the following accounts: That about 14 days ago he left Ohio, at that time there was about 160 Men ready to set out to harrass the English, which probably they be those doing the Mischiefs on Potomack. He says the French Fort is not very strong with men at present. He likewise says that he is of opinion the Indians will do no mischief on the Inhabitants of Pennsylvania till they can draw all the Indians out of the Province and off Sasquehanna, which they are now industriously endeavouring to do; and he desires me as soon as I see the Indians remove from Sasquehanna back to Ohio to shift my quarters, for he says that the French will, if possible, lay all the back frontiers in ruins this Winter.

"This man was sent by a few of my old Indian Friends to give me this caution, that I might save my scalps, which he says would be no small Prize to the French; and he has ordered me to keep it private so that I don't intend to communicate it to any body but you. I don't know whether the Governor should be made acquainted with it or no; but if you judge it proper write the Governor the whole, but at the same time request him to keep it a secret from whom he had his Information, for if it should be made publick to the Interpreters or Indians it may cost me and the man I had my Information from our Lives; and, moreover, the best method to frustrate their Designs will be for the Governor not to let the Indians know that he is acquainted with their design, but to conduct the affair privately, so as not to let the Indians know he has any suspicion of them. Indeed it is only what I thought the Indians always aimed at, and what I feared they would accomplish, for I see all our great Directors of Indian affairs are very short sighted, and glad I am that I have no hand in Indian affairs at this critical time, where no fault can be thrown on my shoulders.

"I am, Dear Sir, Your most humble Servant,

"GEO. CROGHAN.

"To Mr. CHARLES SWAINE.

"P. S.—Sir, if you could possibly Lend me 6 guns with powder, 20 of Lead by the bearer, I will return them in about 15 days, when I can get some from the Mouth of Conegochege. I hope to have my Stockade finished by the middle of next week.

"G. C."

A Letter to Governor Morris from Mr. Charles Swaine of Shippensburg.

"May it please your Honour:

"This evening I received the inclosed from Mr. Croghan, & considering its importance have sent the person, who is Laborer at the Stores, upon My Horse that it may be safely delivered into your Honour's Hands. Mr. Croghan was here on Monday, and as the news had arrived of the Ravages committed in Virginia, I pressed him as he was going to Aughwick that he would get me some Intelligence as to what Indians they were who were committing such Ravage and their Intentions, which I thought he might in some measure do, as he had informed me that there were some Indians hunting in his Neighbourhood, and in compliance with my request I received the inclosed Letter by a Servant of Mr. Croghan's whom was sent over with a horse purchased by a Gentleman in this Neighbourhood. As to the Indian affairs in Virginia and Maryland, we hear they were continuing their cruelties on the South branch on Tuesday last, have an Encampment at George's Creek near the Fort, and from thence make their Excursions. By a prisoner taken and escaped from the Indians, they are known to be the Shawnese & Delawares, under the command of one Shingo, who & most of his Company were at the Carlisle Treaty.

"Your Honour's most Dutiful and Obedient Servant,

"CHARLES SWAINE.

"Shippensburg, October 10th, at Night, 1755.

"To the Governor of Pennsylvania."

A Letter to Governor Morris from Governor Sharpe of Annapolis.

"ANNAPOLIS, October 11th, 1755.

"Sir:

"Within a few days I have received several Letters by Express from Captain Dagworthy, who commands the Garrison consisting of 137 men at Fort Cumberland, and from some other people advising me that the Indians have since the first instant cut off a great many Families who lived near Fort Cumberland and on both sides of Powtowmack some miles eastward of the Fort. It is supposed that near 100 persons have been murthered or carried away Prisoners by these Barbarians, who have burnt the Houses and ravaged all the Plantations in that part of the Country. Parties of the Enemy appear within sight of Fort Cumberland every day, and frequently in greater numbers than the Garrison consists of. As I presume 'twill not be long before these people pay a visit to your Borders, I take this opportunity of intimating what I think may be expected, and am,

"Sir, Your most humble & Obedient Servant,

"HOR$^{o.}$ SHARPE.

"GOVERNOR MORRIS."

The Governor called for Sir Thomas Robinson's Letter, which was particularly considered, ordered to be entered, & follows in these words:

A Letter to the Governor from Sir Tho$^{s.}$ Robinson, Secretary of State.

"WHITEHALL, June 19th, 1755.

"Sir:

"I have received your Letter of the 9th April last, and am to acquaint you that it is the Express command of the Lords Justices that you should not draw Bills upon the pay Master General or his Deputy, or upon any other person, and that you should not issue any Warrants for Money for the discharge of such Expences as have been or may be incurred on account of the Services or Operations to be performed by you, or in any respect under your Direction in North America. But the Lords Justices are pleased to Direct that upon all such occasions you shall apply for such sums of Money as shall so become necessary, and are not properly chargeable to the account of your Government, to Major General Braddock, or to the Commander-in-Chief of his Majestic's Forces for the time being in North America.

"I am, Sir, Your most obedient humble Servant,

"T. ROBINSON.

"Governor of Pennsylvania."

The 18th October, 1755.

A Message was delivered to the Governor by two Members that the House had finished their usual Business, and unless the Governor had any thing to lay before them, particularly any matter relating to Indian affairs, they proposed to adjourn to the first of December if he had no objection to it. The Governor answered that if he had any thing to have communicated to them he would have done it before now, as he must go to his other Government, nor had he any objection to their Adjournment to the first of December.

1755
17 Oct

Report of Sybrant G. van Schaick about his doings with the Indians of
the Upper and Lower Mohawk villages, in company with the Rev. Mr.
Ogilvie. NEW YORK STATE ARCHIVES, ALBANY, N.Y., COLONIAL MANUSCRIPTS,
81: 155.

May it please Your Excellency

In Obedience to your Excellency's Instructions accompanied with your Message to the Indians of the 24th September last I proceeded in Company with the Reverend Mr. Ogilvie to the Lower and upper Mohawk Castles, and having delivered the Message to them & obtained their Answer which has been presented to your Excellency, I proceeded forward in my Journey to the other Nations, and arriving at Burnet's field, met an [illegible] Sachem, formerly attach'd to the British Interest 24 to whom I delivered your Excellency's Message covering their dead Warriors according to the usual form, and gave him a Belt of Wampum to bear to the other Warriors to invite them to resort to their Brother General Johnson.

From thence I proceeded to the [illegible] Place, where I found several Oneida and Tuscarora Sachems and Warriors —— —— —— to whom I delivered the Message, to which they gave the following Answer.

Brother

We thank the Governor our Brother for the early notice he has given us of his [illegible]

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1755
17 Oct

Report of Sybrant G. van Schaick about his doings with the Indians of the Upper and Lower Mohawk villages, in company with the Rev. Mr. Ogilvie. NEW YORK STATE ARCHIVES, ALBANY, N.Y., COLONIAL MANUSCRIPTS, 81: 155.

and we hope to meet him in the Spring of the Year in good Health in order to renew the old Covenant Chain made by our Forefathers time out of Mind.

Brother We are very glad his Excellency our Brother has so great Satisfaction in reading the Proceedings between us and our Brother Genl. Johnson, and hope the Friendship between us and our Brethren the English may continue and increase more and more every day —

Brother We shall now go and make ready to return to our Brother General Johnson, and take as many along with us as we can, and according to the Request of our Brother the Governor we will immediately send the Belt and Strings of Wampum throughout all the Castles —

On my return I heard at Burnets Field, that the Oneidas and Tuskaroras had killed several of the Cattle that were driving up to the Army at the Lake, and on my telling them that I had received this Information, and desired that

they

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17 Oct

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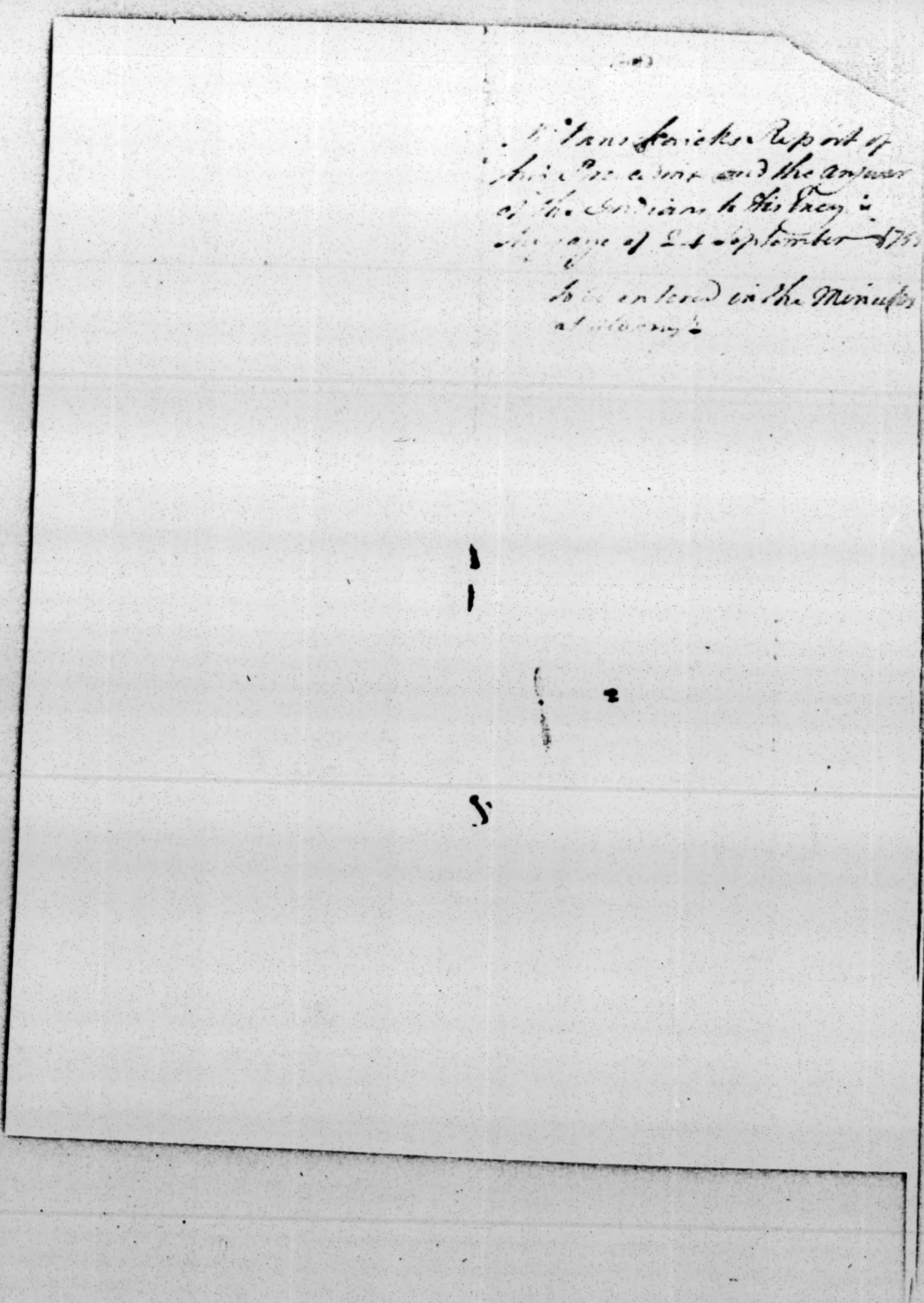
they would desist from such Practice for the future; They excused themselves by saying that the Cattle had destroyed their Corn, and to make up that loss they had killed some of the Cattle, But that for the future they would not kill or clip any of the Cattle but suffer them to pass unmolested.

Albany 17th October 55 Sybrant G: V: Schaick

81:155(2)

1755
17 Oct

Report of Sybrant G. van Schaick about his doings with the Indians of the Upper and Lower Mohawk villages, in company with the Rev. Mr. Ogilvie. NEW YORK STATE ARCHIVES, ALBANY, N.Y., COLONIAL MANUSCRIPTS, 81: 155.



Mr Van Schaicks Report of
his Proceedings and the Answer
of the Indians to his Excy's
Message of 24 September 1755

to be entered in the Minutes
at Albany

1755
22 Oct

Answer of M. de Vaudreuil to the Five Nations. N.Y.COL.DOCS., 10: 361-364.

There have been killed, in addition, 7 soldiers of the Colony; 25 Canadians and 33 Indians. And, 35 Canadians and [illegible]0 Indians wounded.

Of the officers of the Colonial troops and Canadian Militia, 5 have been killed and 4 wounded, one of whom has since died of his wounds.

The enemy has not made any movement since. M. de Roquemaure, Commander of the battalion of La Reine, on whom, of right, the command of the four battalions devolved, is encamped at Fort St. Frederic, and is having, by order of M. de Vaudreuil, an intrenchment erected at Carillon at the Fall of Lake St. Sacrament, for the purpose of protecting that fort, which is 4 leagues from it.

The Guienne and Béarn battalions were encamped and intrenched, since the first of August, at Fort Frontenac, situated on Lake Ontario. They have held in check a body of about 2000 men, who are intrenched under the English fort at Chouaguen, on the same lake. Guienne left on the 5th of this month for Niagara; that batialion will also work there at intrenchments, and at repairs to the fort, which is in a miserable condition; 4 pickets will winter there, 3 of Béarn at Frontenac, and one of each of the battalions of La Reine and Languedoc at Fort St. Frederic, on Lake Champlain.

The main body will be here and in the neighborhood, within a circumference of 5 leagues, in order to be more convenient for marching next spring. These are M. de Vaudreuil's arrangements at present, who has done me the favor to consult me on the subject.

The departure of his courier prevents me entering into fuller details. I am even obliged to write this letter in very great haste.

I must not terminate, however, without taking the liberty to remind you, my Lord, of Brigadier Gantes, commanding the volunteers of Dauphiné. He is an officer whom you have honored with your protection and kindness, and on whom you could bestow a new mark thereof by honoring him with M. de Dieskau's place. It does not become me, my Lord, to speak to you of his merit and talents; he is my brother-in-law. On this account you will not take it ill that I presume to propose him to you, assuring you, my Lord, that it would be very agreeable to M. de Vaudreuil, whom I have sounded. I might, equally, guarantee the votes of our battalions, who have seen him manœuvre during the last war. They entertain for him the highest esteem, and know, by experience, that he unites to great valor the prudence and intelligence that are so necessary. I flatter myself, my Lord, that you will pardon me the liberty I take out of consideration for the motive.

I am, with most profound respect, My Lord, your most humble and

Most obedient servant,

Doreil.

Answer of M. de Vaudreuil to the Five Nations.

Answers of the Marquis de Vaudreuil to the message which the Five Nations sent him by Deputies from the Mission of La Présentation, 22d October, 1755.

Children of the Five Nations.

I have listened attentively to the word you have addressed me by my children of La Présentation. You cannot have better speakers than those of that village, who, aware of my

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Answer of M. de Vaudreuil to the Five Nations. N.Y.COL.DOCS., 10: 361-364.

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sentiments towards you, have been so good as to take charge of conveying your Belts to me, and of letting me know all you have said to them. I answer, then, your three Words.

First Belt.

Children. You assure me, by your first Belt, not only of your neutrality but even of your having embraced prudent counsels, and that nothing can separate you therefrom. You answer for your young men, but you request me not to stain the lands you inhabit with blood.

By a Belt.

Children. It seems you know the whole extent of my goodness for you, and that you persuade yourselves that you can easily influence me. You're right. Were I to treat you as you deserve, I would reject your Belt, and, instead of having the complacency to reply, would make you experience all the resentment I ought to feel at your infidelity. But I am very willing to convince you that my goodness surpasses all that you could expect from it.

If your sentiments towards me were as sincere as mine for you, you would blush at merely having had the thought of announcing your neutrality to me. Ought children be neutral in what affects their father? In truth, you do not speak from the bottom of your heart, and I must be persuaded that you inwardly belie yourselves. No matter; you wish to be neutral. Be so.

I cannot believe that you have embraced prudent counsels; ought you ever have abandoned them? Have not the French, on the contrary, given you every reason to occupy yourselves wholly therewith? Have they ever induced you to commit the least act against any one? Have I not always assisted you in your necessities, and by my good counsels in all your affairs? Why have you not profited by them? You are intractable children, and with difficulty will I be able to restore your senses to you, so far have they gone astray; I can even say that you no longer possess any. Your most cruel enemy has stolen them from you.

You beg of me not to stain the lands you inhabit with blood. Why do you present me such a request? Have I occupied myself with any other thought than with that of preserving them to you; and if, through kindness to you, I had not removed your enemies from them, would they not have expelled you therefrom? Had you not lost your senses you would thank me for all I have done for you.

In fine, I retain your Belt, not to recall the subject which led you to send it to me, but because it comes from you and you still hold a place in my heart. I give you a Belt, which you will carry to your villages to let all my children know that I cease not to be their father, and that I rely on their not delaying to afford me proofs of their continuing to be my children.

Second Word.

Children. You admit that you have accepted the hatchet of the English, but that on considering the alliance made with the French from time immemorial, you have rejected it to attach yourselves, for the future, only to prudent counsels; you request me not to reproach you with any of the present affairs, and that nothing can cause you to conceal the Belt you have resumed.

By a Belt.

From all time have you received proofs of my goodness. I wish to give you, to-day, the greatest you can desire, by accepting your Belt, in the sole view of reminding you, on all

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occasions, that you are unnatural children; that you have accepted the hatchet against your father; and that, out of pity to you, I do not subject you to the punishment your base treachery calls for.

Vain would it be for you to call to mind your alliance with the French, were I not still for you a father full of indulgence. You would have lost all the advantage that alliance has, on all occasions, procured for you the moment you renounced it by the most criminal treason; and scarcely had you taken up the hatchet against me but my children would have devoured you, and gnawed with their teeth even unto the marrow of your bones, had I not held them back, without it being of any use to you to tell them that you had cast away that hatchet to occupy yourself no longer with any but prudent affairs.

Can you ask me not to impute to you any of the present matters? Do you forget all you have done, and do you think that I am ignorant of it? No, in truth you are well persuaded that I have watched your behavior, and followed you in all your trials. I have seen; I have heard you! Do you doubt my having in my hands the papers of General Brudock? I have the identical Messages you have sent him; I have, likewise, your solemn conference with Colonel Johnson. My children of the Upper country have always reported to me the Messages and Belts that you had constantly carried to them from your enemy and mine. Dispense with my saying any more to you on this point.

You say, that nothing can make you conceal the Belt you have resumed. How can I believe you? How often have you not deceived me? How often have I not pardoned you? The Belt you have resumed is your usual expedient to excite my indulgence. It is not sufficient for you to keep that Belt; you have too often tarnished it by your reiterated treasons. I wish to strengthen it by that which I give you. Join them together. Send them from village to village, from cabin to cabin, and daily repeat: We have been too unfortunate to betray the best of all fathers; we deserved death; he has granted us pardon.

Third Word.

You cover the death of the officers who have been killed at the Beautiful river, and at the portage of Lake St Sacrament, particularly Mr de Longueuil, until, as you say, you are able to come down to cover it yourselves.

By a Belt.

How am I to receive your Belt? Will it not be, with reason, as an avowal, on your part, that it is you, the Five Nations, who have killed these officers? Will I not be justified in sending this Belt from Nation to Nation in order to excite the vengeance of all my children? Can you reasonably suppose that I have not seen you against me with arms in your hands? Have I not been a witness of all your actions, and would any of you be actually alive, had I not made use of all my authority to restrain my children, who, in their fury, would have slaughtered you and your wives and children, and laid waste all your lands? Ought you not be confused at my exceeding great goodness? I receive your Belt, but 'tis to let you see, on all occasions, that the French blood which you have unjustly shed, cries aloud for vengeance on you; that on the first fault you will commit, you will suffer the fate you have so long deserved. I present you this Belt in order that my words may never be effaced from your memories. Repeat them every day to your old men and warriors, your wives and little ones; let them never forget them, and let the one and the other mourn their fault and hasten, in like manner, to repair it.

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In regard to the Baron de Longueuil, is it yet time to cover his death? Had your grief and regrets been sincere, would you have delayed, until now, coming to afford me proofs thereof? How often have you not heralded the announcement that you were setting out to come and bewail the Governor? Wherefore do you defer it? If you will acknowledge the truth, 'tis the Evil Spirit that hath prevented you doing so.

You could not come to see me too soon; you are, yourselves, ashamed of delaying so long. You dare not make your appearance because you admit your guilt. No matter. I will receive you, and if you give me convincing proofs that you repent of your crimes, and will avenge them on those who are, at bottom, the real authors of them, your brethren, both the domiciliated and the Upper Nations, will continue to be your brothers and friends.

But, as a good father, I must warn you, that if you should, unfortunately for yourselves, resume your infamous conduct, you will receive no more mercy, and the arms of all my children will weigh so heavy on you that they will crush you to earth without a single one of you escaping; M. de Callières' tree and treaty oblige them thereto; and, moreover, their inclination and attachment to me incline them but too strongly to do so. Reflect, seriously, on what I tell you, and employ every means to avoid experiencing the fatal effects thereof.

Remember your ancestors who had sense, and who, on all occasions, gave proofs of their good conduct; recollect, old men, the beautiful sky under which you lived in the time of my father, who loved you, as I do; listen to my voice as they listened to his, and you will enjoy the most perfect peace and tranquillity.

We, Pierre Rigaud, Marquis de Vaudreuil, Commander of the Royal and Military Order of Saint Louis, Governor and Lieutenant-General for the King throughout the entire of New France, the territories and countries of Louisiana,

Do certify that the present copy is conformable to the original in our Secretary's office. In testimony whereof we have signed this present, and thereunto have caused the seal of our Arms to be affixed, and the same to be countersigned by our Secretary.

Done at Montreal the 13th February, 1758.

(Signed), VAUDREUIL.

By my Lord: (Signed), SAINT SAUVEUR.

M. Bigot to M. de Machault.

Quebec, 23d October, 1755.

My Lord,

A farmer placed in my hands, a few days ago, a stitched book or register, written in English, which he had found on the field of battle, after the action at Fort Duquesne. It contained nothing of interest except two Minutes of Instructions which General Braddock had given to Colonel Johnson and Colonel Shirley. I have had them translated by M. Perthuis, of the Superior Council, and have the honor to address you copies thereof hereunto annexed.

Colonel Shirley's instructions fully confirm the design of the English to seize Niagara and the entire district bordering on the South of Lake Ontario, on pretext of protecting the Five

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Joint a la Lettre de M. de Vaudreuil du 16 fevr 1758

21. 8^{bre} 1755

MARINE ET COLONIES ARCHIVES

Reponse De Monsieur Le Marquis De Vaudreuil aux parolles que les cinq nations luy ont envoyé par des Deputés de la Mission De La presentation

Du 22. Octobre 1755

Mes enfants les cinq nations J'ay écouté attentivement la parolle que vous m'aviés adressé par mes Enfants de la presentation, vous ne pouviés avoir de meilleurs orateurs que ceux de ce village qui connoissant mes sentimens pour vous, ont bien voulu se charger d'emporter vos colliers, et de m'instruire de tout ce que vous leur avés dit. Je vais donc repondre a vos trois parolles

Premiere parolle

Vous m'assurés mes enfans par votre premier collier non seulement de votre neutralité, mais même que vous avés embrassé les bonnes affaires, et que rien ne sçauroit vous en eloigner; vous me repondés de vos jeunes Gens, mais vous me priés de ne point ensanglanter les terres que vous habités

Second Collier

Il paroit mes enfants que vous connoissés toute l'etendüe de ma bonté pour vous, et que vous vous persuadés qu'il vous est aisé de me flechir; vous avés raison, si je vous traitois comme vous le meritiés, je rejetterois votre collier, et au lieu d'etre assés complaisant pour vous repondre, je vous ferois

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Eprouver tout le Ressentiment que je Dois avoi
votre infidelité, mais je veux bien vous convaincre
que ma bonté Surpasse tout ceque vous pourriés
attendre

Si vos Sentimens pour moy etoint aussy Sincè
que ceux que j'ay pour vous, vous rougiriés D'avoi
Seulement la pensée de marmoner votre neutrali
Est ce que Des enfans Doivent être neutres dans
touste Leur vie? en verité vous ne parlés pas d
fond du Coeur, et je Dois être persuadé quinterie
vous vous Dementés vous même, n'importe, vous v
être neutres, Soyés le

Je ne puis Croire que vous ayés embrassé les
affaires, est ce que vous avés jamais Dû vous eloig
n'avés vous pas eu au contraire tout Sujet de la
part des françois de vous en occuper Entièremen
vous ont ils jamais induit a faire la moindre ch
contre qui que ce soit? ne vous ay je pas toujours
assisté Dans vos besoins, et de mes bons Conseils
toutes vos affaires? que n'en avés vous profité,
étés des enfans indociles, et difficilement pourr
vous remettre L'esprit, vous L'avés trop Egaré, j
même Dire que vous ne le possedés plus, il vous a
volé par le Cruel de vos ennemis

Vous me priés de ne point Ensanglanter le
terres que vous habités, quel Sujet avés vo
de me faire une semblable prière, ne suis je ou
D'autre chose que De le Conserver, et si prob
pour vous je n'en avois Eloigné vos Ennemis —

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ne vous en auroint ils pas chassé, si vous naviés perdu l'esprit, vous me remercieriez De tout ce que Je fais pour vous

Enfin Je conserve votre Collier, non pour me rappeller le sujet qui vous a porté a me L'envoyer, mais parcequil vient de vous, et que vous avés encore place Dans mon Coeur, Je vous en Donne un que vous porterés Dans vos villages pour faire Connoitre a tous mes enfans que Je ne Cesse point D'être Leur pere, et que Je Compte quils ne tarderont pas a me Donner des preuves quils continuent a être mes enfans

Seconde Parolle

Vous convenés mes Enfans, que vous avés accepté la hache des anglois, mais qu'ayant consideré l'alliance faitte avec les françois depuis un tems immemorial, vous l'avés rejetté pour ne plus vous attacher qu'aux bonnes affaires, vous me priés de ne rien imputer De toutes les affaires presentes et que rien ne peut vous faire lacher le Collier que vous avés repris

Par un Collier

De tous les tems vous avés reçu des preuves de ma bonté, Je veux bien vous en Donner aujourd'huy la plus grande que vous puissiés desirer en acceptant votre Collier, dans l'unique vuë de vous rappeller Dans toutes les occasions, que vous êtes des enfans denaturés qui vous avés accepté la hache contre votre pere, et que par pitié pour vous, Je ne vous

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fais pas subir la punition qu'éxige votre noir –
attentat

Envain vous rapellerés vous votre alliance av
Les françois, si Je n'etois encore pour vous impene
remply de bonté, vous auriés perdu tout L'avantag
que cette alliance vous a procuré dans toutes les –
occasions, Du moment que vous y avés renoncé par
trahison la plus criminelle, et a peine eutes vous
La hache contre moy que mes enfants vous auroient
mangés, et rongé avec Leurs Dents, Jusques dan
moëlle des os, si Je ne les avois retenus c'eus quil v
lut ne bien servy de leur dire que vous avés reje
cette hache pour ne plus vous occuper que des bon
affaires

Pouvés vous me prier de ne vous rien imputer
affaires presentes? oubliés vous tout ce que vous av
fait, et pensés vous que Je l'ignore? non vrayement
vous êtes bien persuadés que J'ay veillé a votre Condui
et que Je vous ay suivy Dans tous vos pas, Je vous a
Je vous ay entendu, Doutes vous que J'aye en mon
Les papiers Du General Braddork? J'ay Les propre
parolles que vous luy avés Donné, J'ay aussy vot
Conseil solemnel avec Le Colonel Johnson, mes
des pays d'en haut m'ont toujours rapporté les pa
et les colliers que vous leur avés apporté de la pa
de votre ennemy et le mien, Dispensés moy De vous di
Davantage

Vous Dittes que rien ne peut vous faire Lache
collier que vous avés repris, Dois Je vous croire? com
De fois ne m'avés vous pas trompé?, et combien de fo
n'avés vous pas obtenu votre pardon, Le Collier qu
vous avés repris, est votre ressource ordinaire pour

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Rappeller ma bonté, il ne vous suffit point de Garder le Collier, vous l'avés trop souvent terny par vos trahisons reitérées. Je veux bien les raffermir par celuy que je vous Donne, Joignés les ensemble faittes les courir de village en Village, et de Cabanne en Cabanne, et Dittes Journellement nous avons été assés malheureux pour trahir le meilleur de tous les peres, nous meritions la mort, il nous a fait Grace

Troisieme parolle

Vous couvrés la mort des officiers qui ont été tués a la belle Riviere, et au portage du lac St Sacrement particulierement M. De Longueuil, en attendant, dittes vous, que vous puissiés descendre vous même

Par un Collier

Comment Devrois je recevoir votre Collier, ne seroit ce pas avec raison comme un aveu de votre part, que c'est vous même Les cinq nations qui avés tué les officiers? ne serois je pas en Droit de faire courir de nation en nation ce Collier pour exciter la vengeance de tous mes enfants, pouvés vous raisonnablement penser que Je ne vous ay pas vu les armes a la main contre moy? n'ai je pas été temoin de toutes vos actions, et aucun de vous seroit il en vie actuellement, si je n'avois fait usage de toute mon authorité pour arrêter mes enfans qui dans leur fureur vous auroient egorgé, vous, vos femmes, et vos enfans, et auroient ruiné les terres que vous habittés; ne deviés vous pas être confus de ma trop Grande Bonté.

Je reçois votre Collier, mais c'est pour vous faire voir dans toutes les occasions que le sang françois que vous

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avés repandu injustement, crie vengeance sur v
que la premiere faute que vous ferés vous subirés
Sort que vous avés depuis longtems merittés,

Je vous Donne ce Collier pour que ce que Je vous
Soit inefaçable de votre memoire, repettés le
Journellement a vos vieillards et a vos Guerriers, a
femmes, et a vos enfans, quils ne Loublient Jamai
et que les uns, et Les autres Gemissent de leur faut
et s'empressent egallement a la reparer

A l'egard de M. Le Baron de Longueüil
il tenu de Couvrir sa mort? Si votre Douleur, et
regrets eussent eté Sinceres auriés vous tardé Jusq
ce moment a venir en Donner des preuves? Combien
fois n'avés vous pas fait annoncer votre Depart p
venir pleurer le Gouverneur? pourquoy Le Differés
Si vous voulés dire La veritté cest le malin esprit
vous en Empeche —

Vous ne Scauriés trop tot venir me voir, vou
même etre honteux detant tardé. vous n'osés
paroitre parceque vous vous reconnoissés coupables,
n'importe, Je vous recevray, et Si vous me donnés
preuves parfaittes que vous êtes repentans de vos
crimes, et vous en vengés Sur ceux qui en Sont d
Le fond les vrays autheurs. vos freres mes domi
et les nations des pays den haut, continueront d
vos freres, et amys

Mais Je Doi vous prevenir en bon pere que
malheureusement pour vous, vous Reprenés v
infame Conduitte, vous n'aurés plus de misericor
et les bras de tous mes enfans s'appesantiront

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Sur vous quils vous engloutiront dans La terre sans quil en Rechappe un seul de vous,

L'arbre, et Le traitté de M. de Calieres, les y obligent, et D'ailleurs Leur inclination, et Leur attachement pour moy ne les y portent que trop.

Pensés Serieusement a ce que Je vous Dis, et mettés tout en usage pour Evitter d'en Eprouver Les funestes effets.

Rappellés vous vos ancetres qui avoint Lesprit et qui donnoint dans touttes les occasions des preuves de leur bonne Conduitte Souvenés vous Des Veillards Du beau Ciel sous lequel vous viviés Du tems de mon pere qui vous aimoit comme moy, Ecouttés ma parolle comme ils ecoutoint La sienne et vous Jouirés de La paix, et De La tranquilitté La plus parfaitte

Pierre De Rigaud De Vaudreuil

Gouverneur Lieutenant general pour Le Roy en toutte la nouvelle france terres, et pays de la Louisianne.

Nous Certifions que la presente expedition est conforme a L'original demeuré en notre Secretariat en foy de quoy nous avons Signé Le present, et a icelui fait apposer Le Cachet de nos armes, et contresigner par notre Secretaire

fait a Montreal Le 16. febre 1758

Vaudreuil

Par Monseigneur
Saint Sauveur

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M. de Vaudreuil to the French Minister of Marine. Indians of the Five Nations are badly disposed toward the French. Vaudreuil reports measures that he is about to adopt in order to make the Iroquois remain neutral. (In French.) LES ARCHIVES NATIONALES, PARIS, FRANCE, C^{II}A, VOL. 100, FOL. 93-95v.

A Montreal Le 31^{e} 8^{bre} 1755 93

Sauvages des Cinq nations —

Monseigneur,

ARCHIVES COLONIES

Marine

1°

L'attention que j'ay eu à penetrer les sentiments des Cinq nations, a eu tout le succés que je pouvois en Esperer.

Des députés des Cinq nations sont venus a la Présentation, mais n'osant pas paroistre devant moy, ils ont chargé des Chefs de ces nations de me porter leur parolle, par laquelle Ils m'anoncent qu'ils ont rejetté la hache qu'ils avoient acceptée de L'anglois pour ne plus s'occuper que des Bonnes affaires, et qu'ils seront neutres dans la guerre que nous avons avec l'anglois; je n'ay pas douté que ce ne fut des Espions, J'ay cependant

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reponde a leur parolle, je leur ay reproc
leur trahison, et les ait prevenu, que s'ils
Continuoient à se mêler avec les Anglo
je les abandonnerois à la Vengeance de
nations des pays d'Enhaut et de nos
domiciliés qui ont pris la hache pour
frapper sur eux.

M. Joncaire arriva hier avec un Che
Sonont8an et dix Considerés de cette
Nation.

Il m'a d'abord rendu Compte que les
sauvages des Cinq nations, l'avoient en
général assuré de leur neutralité, et
que je pouvois avec Certitude Compter
sur celle des Goyogoins, Sonont8ans
de la Riviere de Cascochagon, onneyotte
et Theskarorienz. La nouvelle de mon
arrivée leur ayant réellement fait oublier
leurs Engagements envers les Anglois,
mais qu'a l'Egard des Nontagués, nous
ne pouvions nous fier a leur promesses
étant Etroitement liés à L'anglois.

Les Goyogoins avoient remis deux

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Coliers aud.t S.r Joncaire, tant de leur part que de celle des Onneyottes et Theskarorins pour me persuader de toute la sincerité de leurs sentimens. et comme j'avois donné ordre a M. Chabert de Joncaire de partir de Niagara sitost l'arrivée de son frere, pour aller chez les Cinq nations, suivre ce qu'il avoit commancé, M. de Joncaire lui à remis ces deux Colliers pour le mettre en état de présser les Montagnés de suivre l'exemple des Goyogoins, Sonontvans, Onneyotte et Theskarorins. je suis bien persuadé que led. S. Chabert ne négligera rien pour remplir sa mission, mais je doutte toujours qu'il puisse faire changer les Montagnés

Le Chef Sonontvan et les dix considerés qui sont descendus avec led. S.r de Joncaire, m'ont temoigné la joye qu'ils avoient de me revoir, ils m'ont informé de tout ce que l'Anglois leur avoit fait acroire

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Sur ma detention en Angleterre, et
que jamais je ne paroistrois dans la
Colonie. Ils ont dit que l'anglois étoit
un Imposteur et ce chef qui étoit
decoré d'une medaille du Roy d'Anglet
m'a dit = Mon pere, je suis un malheu
= je t'avois oublié, et je m'etois laissé sedu
= par l'anglois, et soit persuadé que ton
= absence à été la seulle cause de l'Inconst
= des Cinq nations, et puisque le maîtr
= de la Vie rend à nos voeux un pere que
= nous Cherissons, et qui fait revivre le
= grand brulé village, qui est Ineffaçable
= de nôtre memoire. J'oublie qu'il y a
= des Anglois sur la terre, et pour te
= donner une preuve que je les méprise
= et les regarde Comme des Chiens,
= Tu voy la medaille du Roy d'angleterr
= que j'ay a mon Col, je l'arrache et la
= foulle a mes pieds, je ne te demande pa
= de marque de distinction du Grand
= Onontio Goa, je m'en suis rendu Indign
= par ma mauvaise Conduitte et je n

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M. de Vaudreuil to the French Minister of Marine. Indians of the Five Nations are badly disposed toward the French. Vaudreuil reports measures that he is about to adopt in order to make the Iroquois remain neutral. (In French.) LES ARCHIVES NATIONALES, PARIS, FRANCE, C^{II} A, VOL. 100, FOL. 93-95v.

= puis la reparer qu'en me sacrifiant
= pour te prouver ma fidelité.

J'ay repondu comme je le devois à cette parolle et j'en ay pris avantage pour me plaindre de l'Ingratitude et de la Trahison des Cinq nations; j'ay fait repartir ce Chef pour aller Temoigner mon ressentiment dans Tous les Villages des Cinq nations, et les prevenir que s'ils ne changent de Conduitte, mes Enfans des pays d'En haut et mes domiciliés leur feront une guerre qui ne finira jamais.

Je feray remonter led^{t} S^{r} de Joncaire sur les glaces chez les Cinq nations, non seulement pour les Maintenir dans leur neutralité, mais même pour les faire declarer contre l'anglois s'il est possible.

Les Circonstances présentes s'opposent au dezir que j'aurois de punir les Cinq nations de leur

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Trahison L'anglois m'occupe assez pour que j'eloigne tout autre Sujet de guerre mais si le printemps prochain, il se trouve des Cinq nations parmy les anglois je feray frapper toutes nos Nations des pays d'Enhaut et nos domiciliez sur eux. Je feray ravager leurs Villages, et je ne les pardonneray Jamais, il est a Souhaitter que je ne Sois pas dans cette necessité.

Je Suis avec un tres profond respe

Monseigneur

Votre tres humble et tr
obeissant Serviteur
Vaudreuil

ARCHIVES

1755
7 Nov

Pennsylvania Provincial Council Minutes. Reference to council with the Six Nations. PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION, HARRISBURG, PA., PENNSYLVANIA PROVINCIAL RECORDS, VOL. N, P 268.

Pennsylvania 1755

At a Council held at Philadelphia Friday 7th November 1755

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esqr. Lieutenant Governor &ca. —
Joseph Turner, Richard Peters & Lynford Lardner Esquires

The Minutes of the Indian Treaty held with the Owendats and some of the Six Nations in August last were read and a fair Copy thereof was wrote in order to be sent to the Assembly agreeable to their request.

The Council not being able to come to any determined opinion about the several methods proposed for raising Supplies of Arms and Ammunition and thinking it might be attended with ill Consequences to go into private Subscriptions or any other means — before they knew positively what the Assembly would finally do, the Governor was of a different opinion and declared that the present Exigency would not admit of delay and — therefore applied to the proprietary Receiver General to advance him the sum of £1000 of the proprietary's Money in order to purchase Arms & Ammunition for the use of the — back Inhabitants, but Mr. Hockley excused himself by assuring the Governor that he had not £100 in the House.

Several Military Commissions were applied for on the Recommendation of the Magistrates of the County of Kent and granted.

The following Letter from Mr. Weiser who was in his way here along with Scarroyady and Andrew Montour was delivered in Council.

A Letter to Governor Morris from Conrad Weiser Esqr.

Germantown at 6 o'Clock in the Evening Novr. 7th. 1755

Honoured Sir,

I arrived here just now with Andrew Montour, Scarroyady and drunken Jagrea. they would go to Philadelphia to know what we would do for them or not & all what I could tell of them was to no purport. I think they are very good Friends — With no rest of the Indians on Sasquehannah the Question is whether we ate theirs they say they will have in plain Terms how things shall be. Since my last three persons have been buried killed by the Enemy. Witnesses two of my Sons & the Coroner of the County of Berks is gone up & will make report to your Honour (I believe) accordingly. The rest I must refer till I have the Satisfaction to wait upon your Honour, who am in great Haste

Honoured Sir,
Your most Obedient
Conrad Weiser

Governor Morris.

1755
7 Nov (II)
Pennsylvania Provincial Council Minutes. Reference to council with the Six Nations. PENN.PROV.COUN.MIN., 6: 681.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Friday, 7th November, 1755.

"PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esqr. Lieutenant Governor, &ca.

Joseph Turner,
Richard Peters,
Lynford Lardner, } Esquires.

The Minutes of the Indian Treaty held with the Owendats and some of the Six Nations in August last were read, and a fair Copy thereof was wrote in order to be sent to the Assembly agreeable to their request.

"The Council not being able to come to any determined opinion about the several methods proposed for raising supplies of Arms and Ammunition, and thinking it might be attended with ill Consequences to go into private Subscriptions or any other means before they knew positively what the Assembly would finally do, the Governor was of a different opinion, and declared that the present Exigency would not admit of delay, and therefore applied to the Proprietary Receiver General to advance him the sum of £1,000 of the Proprietary's Money in order to purchase Arms & Ammunition for the use of the back Inhabitants, but Mr. Hockley excused himself by assuring the Governor that he had not £100 in the House.

Several Military Commissions were applied for on the Recommendation of the Magistrates of the County of Kent and granted.

The following letter from Mr. Weiser who was in his way here along with Scarroyady and Andrew Montour, was delivered in Council:

A Letter to Governor Morris from Conrad Weiser, Esqr.

"GERMANTOWN, at 6 o'clock in the evening, Novr. 7th, 1755.

"Honoured Sir:

"I arrived here just now with Andrew Montour, Scarroyady, and drunken Zigrea; they would go to Philadelphia to know what we would do for them or not, & all what I cou'd tell of them was to no purport. I think they are very good Friends with no rest of the Indians on Sasquehannah; the Question is whether we ate theirs, they say they will have in plain Terms how things shall be. Since my last three Persons have been buried, killed by the Enemy. Witnesses, two of my sons & the Coroner of the county of Berks is gone up, and will make report to your Honour (I believe) accordingly. The rest I must refer till I have the Satisfaction to wait upon your Honour, who am George Kast's,

"Honoured Sir, Your most obedient

"CONRAD WEISER.

"Governor MORRIS."

1755 °
8 Nov

Pennsylvania Provincial Council Minutes. Council in Philadelphia with Scaroyady. PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION, HARRISBURG, PA., PENNSYLVANIA PROVINCIAL RECORDS, VOL. N, PP. 269-271.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Saturday 8th November 1755.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor &c.
Robert Strettell John Mifflin
Lynford Lardner Richard Peters } Esqrs.

A Bill was presented by two Members to the Governor for his concurrence entituled "A Bill "for striking Sixty thousand Pounds in Bills of Credit and for granting the same to the "Kings use and to provide a Fund for sinking the same by a Tax of Sixpence ꝑ Pound "and ten Shillings per head yearly for four Years on all the Estates real & personal & "Taxables within this Province", which was read.

The Governor after hearing the Bill was under a great concern of mind at the ill Temper of the Aſsembly in raising a dispute about the Proprietary Tax at such a dangerous time as this and having received at the last Council the unanimous opinion of the Members that he ought not to paſs such a Bill, and those present adhering to their opinion, he drew a Meſsage to the Aſsembly and whilst it was considering the Indians vizt: Scarroyady, Andrew Montour, Jagrea, and Scarroyadys son with Mr. Weiser came into Council.

The Governor bid the Indians welcome, was particularly obliged to them for this Visit; & would be glad of their advice in these dangerous times.

Scarrooyady Speaker

Brethren,

Since we saw one another last Affairs have taken a great turn. We have now need to look about us in this dangerous time. I came down on purpose to encourage both Governor, Council, Wisemen and Warriors; I have something to say to them of very great Consequence.

Gave a String.

Scarrooyady then proceeds.

Brethren,

Two Meſsengers came from Ohio to an Indian Town at the Big Island on Sasquehannah, and seeing an Englishman that by accident happened to be there, They said kill him, No, say the Indians of the Big Island, we will not kill him, nor suffer him to be killed; we have lived in peace many Years with the English here, if you are so bloodthirsty, go somewhere else for blood, go where the Blood already covers the Ground; we will have no Blood spilt here. These two Meſsengers were delawares, and said further, that they had something very extraordinary to say to them; and then producing a Belt, offered to deliver a Meſsage from the Governor of Canada, but the Sasquehannah Indians stopped them, desiring they would defer their Speech, till they could send for some of their Neighbours, and when their Neighbours came they delivered their speech in the name of Onontio.

Children, I have often warned You to move from this River: You are Children, You must now go where I cannot hurt you; You are in my way; You must not stay any longer. I will allow you to wear a little Hatchet that can kill a Bear, or a Deer or an Englishman, a little Hatchet will serve for this purpose. You wear petticoats, do not therefore concern yourselves in War. nor enquire any thing about Warriors; only move away from this River, that you may not stand in my way. If you want Powder and Lead I have enough at Ohio, it lies there in heaps, and you may have what Quantity you please. This last part of the Speech was made to the Delawares & no Indians else.

Gave a Belt of Wampum.

The

1755 °
8 Nov

Pennsylvania Provincial Council Minutes. Council in Philadelphia with Scaroyady. PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION, HARRISBURG, PA., PENNSYLVANIA PROVINCIAL RECORDS, VOL. N, PP. 269-271.

The two Ohio Delawares proceeded and told the Indians to send for all the Indians that were among the English. If Onontio finds any of your Indians among the White people he will kill them, & therefore he gives you this Warning & be sure mind what we say.

The two Messengers said further We the Delawares of Ohio do proclaim War against the English. We have been their Friends many Years, but now have taken up the Hatchet against them, & we will never make it up with them whilst there is an Englishman alive.

We tell you that the French have a numerous alliance of other Indians as well as the Delawares in this War.

[Danced the War Dance.]

Then said further. When Washington was defeated, We the Delawares were blamed as the Cause of it. We will now kill. We will not be blamed without a Cause. We make up three Parties of Delawares. One party will go against Carlisle; One down the Sasquehannah; and I myself with another party will go against Tulpehocken to Conrad Weiser. And we shall be followed by a Thousand French and Indians, Ottawawas, Twightwees, Shawonese and other Delawares.

The French have on this Occasion summoned in all their Allies, and they are preparing to come. The number I am not certain of: But all the Indians except the Chickasaws are for the French, and the Thousand Indians before mentioned had actually left the Fort, before we, the Messengers, came away.

Then Scarrooyady acquainted the Governor, that he had a Message to deliver from the Sasquehannah Indians to the Governor, Wisemen and people of this Province, & desired to be heard in public, and that the Assembly might be present.

The Governor sent a Message by the Secretary to give the Assembly notice of this, and appointed three o'Clock in the afternoon in the State House to hear the Indian Message.

The following Message to the Assembly was delivered by the Secretary at the Meeting of the House in the afternoon

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

Gentlemen.

You have now been sitting six days and instead of strengthening my Hands and providing for the safety and defence of the people and Province, in this time of imminent danger, You have sent me a Message wherein you talk of regaining the affections of the Indians now employed in laying waste the Country, and butchering the Inhabitants, and of enquiring what injustice they have received, and into the Causes of their falling from their Alliance with us, and taking part with the French. Such Language at this time, and while the Province is in its present Circumstances, seems to me very extraordinary, as no Complaint has ever to my knowledge been made by them of any Injury done them.

I am sorry you should at this Time send me the Bill I have just now received when I had heretofore refused my assent to one of the same kind & in my Message of the third instant informed you that I could not give my Assent to such a Bill.

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Pennsylvania Provincial Council Minutes. Council in Philadelphia with Scaroyady. PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION, HARRISBURG, PA., PENNSYLVANIA PROVINCIAL RECORDS, VOL. N, PP. 269-271.

I shall not enter into a Dispute whether the proprietaries ought to be taxed or not --- It is sufficient for me that they have given me no power in that case, And I cannot think it consistent either with my Duty or Safety, in matters of Government to exceed the powers of my Commission, much less to do what that Commission expressly prohibits.

Upon the repeated Accounts I have had of the miserable situation of the back Inhabitants & the Disorder and Confusion among those that are assembled in their Defence, the Council have unanimously advised me to go into the back Counties to put things in the best order possible and to afford my Countenance & Assistance to those that are willing to take up Arms in Defence of their Country. This I declined doing till I knew what you would propose upon the present occasion; and having now received from you a Bill that you well knew I could not give my assent to, I despair of your doing any thing and shall therefore immediately set off for the Back Counties, and if they have not all the Assistance their present Distresses make necessary, it will not be for want of Inclination in me, but Power.

I shall take with me a Quorum of the Council and if you shall have any Bills to propose that are consistent with the Duties of my Station, and the just rights of Government, I shall readily give my assent to them, whenever they are brought to me.

Philadelphia Novem^r. 8. 1755 Robert Hunter Morris.

At a Council held at the State House in Philadelphia on Saturday the 8th of November 1755. P.M.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esq^r. Lieutenant Governor &c.^a

Robert Strettell	Richard Peters	Esq^rs
Lynford Lardner	Thomas Cadwalader	

Indians

Scarrooyady - - - - - - an Oneido
Jagrea - - - - - - - - - a Mohawk
Andrew Montour
and Conrad Weiser Esquire Interpreter

The Speaker and Members of Assembly, several Magistrates, Officers & Citizens

The Governor ordered the Interpreter to tell the Indians that he, his Council, the Assembly & the good people of the City were met at their Instance and ready to hear them.

Scarrooyady addressing himself to the Governor and all present made the following Speech.

Brethren,

I let you know that I am returned from my Journey, which when I was last

Pennsylvania Provincial Council Minutes. Council in Philadelphia with Scaroyady and Iagrea. PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION, HARRISBURG, PA., PENNSYLVANIA PROVINCIAL RECORDS, VOL. N, PP. 271-273.

I shall not enter into a Dispute whether the proprietaries ought to be taxed or not --- It is sufficient for me that they have given me no power in that case, And I cannot think it consistent either with my Duty or Safety, in matters of Government to exceed the powers of my Commission, much less to do what that Commission expressly prohibits.

Upon the repeated Accounts I have had of the miserable situation of the back Inhabitants & the Disorder and Confusion among those that are assembled in their Defence, the Council have unanimously advised me to go into the back Counties to put things in the best order possible and to afford any Countenance & Assistance to those that are willing to take up Arms in Defence of their Country. This I declined doing till I knew what you would propose upon the present occasion; and having now received from you a Bill that you well knew I could not give any assent to, I despair of your doing any thing and shall therefore immediately set off for the Back Counties, and if they have not all the Assistance their present Distresses make necessary, it will not be for want of Inclination in me, but Power.

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Philadelphia Novem.r 8. 1755

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Robert Strettell	Richard Peters	} Esq.rs
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The Speaker and Members of Assembly, several Magistrates, Officers & Citizens

The Governor ordered the Interpreter to tell the Indians that he, his Council, the Assembly & the good people of the City were met at their Instance and ready to hear them.

Scarrooyady addressing himself to the Governor and all present made the following Speech

Brethren,

I let you know that I am returned from my Journey, which when I was last here I told you I intended to take. I went as far up the River Sasquehannah as where the Nanticokes live. I told them that I had undertaken that Journey purposely to alarm them to

apprize

1755°
8 Nov (II)

Pennsylvania Provincial Council Minutes. Council in Philadelphia with Scaroyady and Iagrea. PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION, HARRISBURG, PA., PENNSYLVANIA PROVINCIAL RECORDS, VOL. N, PP. 271-273.

apprize them of the approach of very heavy Storms and to warn them of imminent Danger. — I bid them rouse and awake and hearken to the noise that was all about them; and that if they did not now awake, the first noise they would hear would be the noise of the Tomahawk upon their Heads. I went in this manner to all the Indians and I know their Sentiments. I want to know yours; I want you to open your hearts, I want to look into their Insides. I must now know if you will stand by us, to be plain, if you will fight or not. You must be as sensible of Danger as the Indians, and therefore speak plain to us, We shall then know what to do. Be persuaded that we are determined to know the certainty of your Measures, before we take any of our selves.

Then taking a double Belt of Wampum, one Black the other of White with a string tied to the end of the Black Belt,

He proceeded to relate the particulars of what passed between him & the Nanticokes & other Indians on Sasquehannah, saying, I told them that the Defeat of General Braddock had brought about a great turn of affairs. It was a great Blow. But what then, tho' we were struck half way to the Ground, I told them we had strength enough left to recover, and that tho' Onontio, since that time was grown proud, exceeding proud, yet if they would exert themselves with us we might yet subdue the pride of Onontio — And then I gave them the Belt with the Hatchet in it, which they took readily, and gave another Belt and tied it to mine in order to make the Hatchet the Sharper & give it the greater weight.

At the same time they told me that they had heard a noise of Guns, but did not know where it came from; and that they thank'd me for coming to let ~~me~~ them know their Danger & from what Quarter the noise came; that they hated Onontio and would chearfully assist against him; whoever sent to them first they would go to first — whether it should be their Brethren the English or the Six Nations; whoever sent first should be first assisted. And that it was further agreed by all the Nations of Indians on Sasquehannah, that I should go to Philadelphia and apply immediately to the Government and obtain an Explicit answer from them whether they would fight or no.

Scarrooyady then threw the Belts upon the Table and proceeded.

Brethren,

I must deal plainly with You, and tell You if you will not fight, with us we will go somewhere else, We never can nor ever will put up the affront. If we cannot be safe where we are, we will go somewhere else for protection and take care of ourselves.

We have more to say, but will first receive your answer to this: and as the times are too dangerous to admit of our staying long here, we therefore intreat you will use all the Dispatch possible, that we may not be detained. —

Brethren,

We are charged with having been concerned in a late Engagement that the Enemy had with your people. We absolutely deny it; We hate Onontio as much as you do, & cannot help taking it very much amiss to be thus charged by your people.

For a proof of our Innocence we let you know that as soon as we had the news of your people being attacked, we went immediately, we did not stay two Minutes to the place of attack. we found no Enemy there, but we found one Indian that was killed by your people, a French Indian; we did not kill him but we scalped him, and have brought you the Scalp, which we would not have done if he had been of the number of our Friends —

Brethren, I have done for the present.

The Governor

1755°
8 Nov (II)

Pennsylvania Provincial Council Minutes. Council in Philadelphia with Scaroyady and Iagrea. PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION, HARRISBURG, PA., PENNSYLVANIA PROVINCIAL RECORDS, VOL. N, PP. 271-273.

The Governor after conferring with his Council gave this Answer

Brethren,

In behalf of the Government & people of Pennsylvania I give you thanks for this friendly visit.

We are obliged to you for the Journey you took to the Nanticokes and for waking and warning them of their Danger. They are our Friends, and in doing a good Office to them you do a kindness to us.

We also thank you for coming down & giving us warning of our Danger at this Time of Trouble.

From the nature of our Government, it is not in my power, nor the power of any one man, to say, what the whole people shall do: I therefore cannot give you a positive answer to that part of your Speech, wherein you desire to know whether we will fight or not; but as the several men who have a right to determine that point are now met, they are considering the present State of the Country, and will consider what you have now said; and when we have agreed what shall be done, you may depend on knowing it.

The Government and governing part of the people of this Province have never accused the Six Nations of any Breach of Faith; they ever did and still do esteem them their fast Friends & Allies; but as our people are numerous & scattered all over the Country & not under the immediate Eye of the Government; it is impossible to keep every Mouth in order: We therefore hope you will not take amiss any idle Tales that foolish chattering people may utter; or attribute any thing to the Government that they may say to your prejudice: but regard only what you hear from the Government as that alone is to be depended upon as the true sense of the people of this province.

Then the Governor applying himself to the Speaker said,

Mr. Speaker, and Gentlemen of the Assembly

You have heard what the Indians have said: — Without your aid I cannot make a proper answer to what they now propose and expect of us. I then again desire you will return to your House, consider well of it, and whenever you will strengthen my Hands and enable me to give them a full and proper Answer, I shall most readily do it.

At a Council held at Philada. Saturday Night 8th Novemr. 1755.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor &c.

Robert Strettel   Richard Peters
Lynford Lardner   Thomas Cadwalader } Esqrs.
John Mifflin

The Governor directed the Secretary to lay before the House the Copy of the Indian Treaty which they had requested in their Message of the fifth Instant, and demanded the Papers that had been last sent to them.

He returned and acquainted the Governor that the House was adjourned, but having met the Speaker, he delivered the Indian Treaty to him, and demanded the Papers, and the Clerk was directed to deliver them.

The

1755°
8 Nov (III)

Pennsylvania Provincial Council Minutes. Council discussion with Scaroyady. PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION, HARRISBURG, PA., PENNSYLVANIA PROVINCIAL RECORDS, VOL. N, pp. 273-274.

The Governor after conferring with his Council gave this Answer

Brethren,

In behalf of the Government & people of Pennsylvania I give you thanks for this friendly visit.

We are obliged to you for the Journey you took to the Nanticokes and for waking and warning them of their Danger. They are our Friends, and in doing a good Office to them you do a kindness to us.

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Mr Speaker, and Gentlemen of the Assembly

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At a Council held at Philada Saturday Night 8th Novemr 1755.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor &c.
Robert Strettel
Lynford Lardner
John Mifflin
Richd Peters
Thomas Cadwalader } Esqrs

The Governor directed the Secretary to lay before the House the Copy of the Indian Treaty which they had requested in their Message of the fifth Instant, and demanded the papers that had been last sent to them.

He attended and acquainted the Governor that the House was adjourned, but having met the Speaker, he delivered the Indian Treaty to him, and demanded the Papers, and the Clerk was directed to deliver them —

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1755°
8 Nov (III)

Pennsylvania Provincial Council Minutes. Council discussion with Scaroyady. PENNSYLVANIA HISTORICAL AND MUSEUM COMMISSION, HARRISBURG, PA., PENNSYLVANIA PROVINCIAL RECORDS, VOL. N, pp. 273-274.

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Pennsylvania 1755

The Governor informed the Council that he proposed to set out immediately to the back Counties; Whereupon the Board went into the Consideration of the several matters neceſsary to be done before the Governors Departure. The first thing that occurred was to send for Mr. Weiser and the Indians, and to acquaint them with the Governor's Journey; which being done, they conferred together and made the following speech

Brother the Governor,

It gives us concern to see you preparing to go out of Town, being apprehensive that when you are gone our Buſineſs will be neglected; indeed if you go we shall take all for lost, and therefore we request you in the most preſsing terms not to go, but to stay with your Council and Aſsembly and come to a Determination on the important point we have spoke to you upon. We declare if we fail in this present Application we will not come here again nor trouble ourselves further with this Province but leave it to its own Destruction and provide for our own safety in some other place and in the best manner we can. Be so good therefore as to grant our request, and stay in Town. We shall then have some hopes of Succeſs, otherwise we shall have none.

The Governor considering that tomorrow was Sunday & the Aſsembly had adjourned themselves, & therefore to stay for their answer would occasion a long Delay that might prove prejudicial to the back Inhabitants desired the advice of his Council on this new Difficulty; & they fearing least the suffering these Indians to go away without receiving a full and proper Satisfaction might occasion the loſs of them and all our Friendly Indians, which would be of the last Consequence — Unanimously advised the Governor to stay and use his utmost Endeavours with his Aſsembly to strengthen his Hands, and enable him to engage these and the other Indians and take other vigorous Measures at the same Time.

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Then the Governor acquainted the Indians, that at their Instance he would put off his Journey, for which they returned him thanks, and entered into a very serious Conference, wherein they declared they were reduced to the last Extremity. They could not even stay at Shamokin which might have been prevented, if the Government had paid a proper regard to their repeated Sollicitations for a supply of Arms and Ammunition for their Warriors & of neceſsaries for their Wives and Children. — That in particular they preſsed this after the return of Scarrooyady from his Journey up Sasquehannah aſsuring the Governor that all those Indians had agreed to come together and live nearer to the English Settlements, that they might be within call, and all they desired besides a supply of Neceſsaries for the Support of their Wives and Children was to be provided with Arms & Ammunition at the public Expence and to see some of the English Young men among them who might be witneſses of their Conduct be trained up to fight as they did, and go out to War with them. Let this be done even now, said they, and you shall see we will take some French Scalps and send them by your own Young men to this City, for you to see with your own Eyes that we hate and will destroy the French as much as you do.

Scarrooyady being asked what number of Indians lived on the Sasquehannah, said, about three hundred, who were all hearty in the English Interest, and waited with Impatience, to know the Succeſs of his Application.

At

1755
8 Nov (IV)
Pennsylvania Provincial Council Minutes. Council in Philadelphia with Scaroyady. PENN.PROV.COUN.MIN., 6: 682-685.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Saturday 8th November, 1755.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &ca.

Robert Strettel, John Mifflin, } Esqrs.
Lynford Lardner, Richard Peters,

A Bill was presented by two Members to the Governor for his concurrence, entituled "A Bill for striking Sixty thousand Pounds in Bills of credit, and for granting the same to the King's use, and to provide a Fund for sinking the same by a Tax of Six pence ⅌ Pound and ten shillings Per head yearly for four Years on all the Estates, real & personal, & Taxables within this Province," which was read.

The Governor after hearing the Bill was under a great concern of mind at the ill temper of the Assembly in raising a dispute about the Proprietary Tax at such a dangerous time as this, and having received at the last Council the unanimous opinion of the Members that he ought not to pass such a Bill, and those present adhering to their opinion, he drew a Message to the Assembly, and whilst it was considering the Indians, vizt. Scarroyady, Andrew Montour, Jagrea, and Scarroyady's son, with Mr. Weiser, came into Council.

The Governor bid the Indians welcome, was particularly obliged to them for this visit, & would be glad of their advice in these dangerous Times.

Scarroyady Speaker.

"Brethren:

"Since we saw one another last Affairs have taken a great turn. We have now need to look about us in this dangerous time. I came down on purpose to encourage both Governor, Council, Wise men, and Warriors. I have something to say to them of very great Consequence."

Gave a String.

Scarroyady then proceeds:

"Brethren—

"Two Messengers came from Ohio to an Indian Town at the Big Island on Sasquehannah, and seeing an Englishman that by accident happened to be there, They said kill him. No, say the Indians of the Big Island, we will not kill him nor suffer him to be killed. We have lived in peace many Years with the English here; if you are so blood thirsty go some where else for Blood—go where the Blood already covers the Ground. We will have no Blood spilt here. These two Messengers were Delawares, and said further that they had something very extraordinary to say to them, and then producing a Belt offered to deliver a Message from the Governor of Canada, but the Sasquehannah Indians stopped them, desiring they would defer their Speech till they could send for some of their Neighbours, and when their Neighbours came they delivered their Speech in the name of Onontio.

"'Children: I have often warned you to move from this River. You are Children. You must now go where I cannot hurt you. You are in my way. You must not stay any longer. I will allow you to wear a little Hatchet that can kill a Bear or a Deer or an Englishman; a little Hatchet will serve for this purpose. You wear Petticoats; do not, therefore, concern yourselves in War nor enquire any thing about Warriors, only move away from this River that you may not stand in my way. If you want Powder and Lead I have enough at Ohio; it lies there in heaps, and you may have what Quantity you please.' This last part of the Speech was made to the Delawares & no Indians else."

Gave a Belt of Wampum.

"The two Ohio Delawares proceeded and told the Indians to send for all the Indians that were among the English. If Onontio finds any of your Indians among the White people he will kill them, & therefore he gives you this Warning, & be sure mind what we say.

"The two Messengers said further: 'We, the Delawares of Ohio, do proclaim War against the English. We have been their Friends many years, but now have taken up the Hatchet against them, & we will never make it up with them whilst there is an English man alive.

"'We tell you that the French have a numerous Alliance of other Indians as well as the Delawares in this War.'

[Danced the War Dance.]

"Then said further: 'When Washington was defeated We, the Delawares, were blamed as the Cause of it. We will now kill. We will not be blamed without a Cause. We make up three Parties of Delawares. One party will go against Carlisle, One down the Sasquehannah, and I myself with another party will go against Tulpohoccon to Conrad Weiser, And We shall be followed by a thousand French and Indians, Ottowawas, Twightwees, Shawonese, and other Delawares.'

"The French have on this Occasion summoned in all their Allies, and they are preparing to come. The number I am not certain of; But all the Indians except the Chickasaws are for the French, and the Thousand Indians before mentioned had actually left the Fort before we, the Messengers, came away."

Then Scarroyady acquainted the Governor that he had a Message to deliver from the Sasquehanna Indians to the Governor, Wisemen, and People of this Province, & desired to be heard in publick, and that the Assembly might be present.

1755
8 Nov (IV)
Pennsylvania Provincial Council Minutes. Council in Philadelphia
with Scaroyady. PENN.PROV.COUN.MIN., 6: 682-685.

The Governor sent a Message by the Secretary to give the Assembly notice of this, and appointed three o'clock in the afternoon in the State House to hear the Indian Message.

The following Message to the Assembly was delivered by the Secretary at the Meeting of the House in the afternoon:

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

"Gentlemen:

"You have now been sitting six days, and instead of strengthening my Hands and providing for the safety and defence of the people and Province in this Time of imminent danger, You have sent me a Message wherein you taik of regaining the Affections of the Indians now employed in laying waste the Country and butchering the Inhabitants, and of inquiring what injustice they have received, and into the Causes of their falling from their alliance with us and taking part with the French. Such Language at this time and while the Province is in its present Circumstances seems to me very extraordinary, as no Complaint has ever to my knowledge been made by them of any Injury done them.

"I am sorry you should at this time send me the Bill I have just now received when I had heretofore refused my assent to one of the same kind, and in my message of the third instant informed you that I cou'd not give my assent to such a Bill.

"I shall not enter into a Dispute whether the Proprietaries ought to be taxed or not. It is sufficient for me that they have given me no power in that case, and I cannot think it consistent either with my Duty or Safety in matters of Government to exceed the Powers of my Commission, much less to do what that Commission expressly prohibits.

"Upon the repeated accounts I have had of the miserable situation of the back Inhabitants, & the Disorder and Confusion among those that are assembled in their Defence, the Council have unanimously advised me to go into the back Counties to put things into the best order possible, and to afford my countenance & Assistance to those that are willing to take up Arms in Defence of their Country. This I declined doing till I knew what you would propose upon the present occasion; and having now received from You a Bill that you well knew I could not give my assent to, I dispair of your doing any thing, and shall, therefore, immediately set off for the Back Counties, and if they have not all the Assistance their present Distresses make necessary, it will not be for want of Inclination in me but Power.

"I shall take with me a Quorum of the Council, and if you shall have any Bills to propose that are consistent with the Duties of my Station and the just rights of Government, I shall readily give my assent to them whenever they are brought to me.

"ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS.

"PHILADELPHIA, Novem^{r} 8th, 1755."

At a Council held at the State House in Philadelphia, on Saturday the 8th of November, 1755, P. M.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esq$^{r.}$ Lieutenant Governor, &$^{ca.}$

Robert Strettell, Richard Peters.
Lynford Lardner, Thomas Cadwalader, } Esquires.

Indians.

Scarrooyady, an Oneido,
Jagrea, a Mohawk,
Andrew Montour,
And Conrad Weiser, Esquire, Interpretor.

The Speaker and Members of Assembly, several Magistrates, Officers, & Citizens.

The Governor ordered the Interpreter to tell the Indians that he, his Council, the Assembly, & the good People of the City, were met at their Instance and ready to hear them.

Scarrooyady addressing himself to the Governor and all present, made the following Speech:

"Brethren—

"I let you know I am returned from my Journey, which when I was last here I told you I intended to take. I went as far up the River Sasquehannah as where the Nanticokes live. I told them that I had undertaken that Journey purposely to alarm them, to apprize them of the approach of very heavy Storms and to warn them of imminent Danger. I bid them rouse and awake and hearken to the noise that was all about them, and that if they did not now awake the first noise they would hear would be the noise of the Tomahawk upon their Heads. I went in this manner to all the Indians and I know their Sentiments, I want to know Yours. I want you to open your hearts, I want to look into their Insides. I must now know if you will stand by us; to be plain, if you will fight or not. You must be as sensible of Danger as the Indians, and therefore speak plain to us, We shall then know What to do. Be persuaded that we are determined to know the certainty of your Measures before we take any of our selves."

Then taking a double Belt of Wampum, one Black the other of my Station and the just rights of Government, I shall readily give my assent to them whenever they are brought to me.

"ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS.

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Then taking a double Belt of Wampum, one Black the other

White, with a string tied to the end of the black Belt, He proceeded to relate the particulars of what passed between him & the Nanticokes & other Indians on Sasquehannah, saying:

"I told them that the Defeat of General Braddock had brought about a great turn of affairs. It was a great Blow. But what then, tho' we were struck half way to the Ground I told them we had strength enough left to recover, and that tho' Onontio since that time was grown proud, exceeding proud, yet, if they would exert themselves with us we might yet subdue the pride of Onontio, and then I gave them the Belt with the Hatchet in it, which they took readily and gave another Belt and tied it to mine in order to make the Hatchet the Sharper & give it the greater Weight.

"At the same time they told me that they had heard a noise of Guns, but did not know where it came from, and that they thank'd me for coming to let them know their danger, & from what Quarter the noise came; that they hated Onontio, and would chearfully assist against him, whoever sent to them first they would go to first, whether it should be their Brethren the English or the Six Nations, whoever sent first should be first assisted, and that it was further agreed by all the nations of Indians on Sasquehannah that I should go to Philadelphia and apply immediately to the Government and obtain an Explicit answer from them whether they would fight or no."

Scarrooyady then threw the Belts upon the Table and proceeded:

"Brethren:

"I must deal plainly with You, and tell you if you will not fight with us we will go somewhere else. We never can nor ever will put up the affront. If we cannot be safe where we are we will go somewhere else for protection and take care of ourselves.

"We have more to say, but will first receive your answer to this, and as the times are too dangerous to admit of our staying long here, we therefore entreat you will use all the Dispatch possible, that we may not be detained."

"Brethren:

"We are charged with having been concerned in a late Engagement that the Enemy had with your people. We absolutely deny it. We hate Onontio as much as you do, & cannot help taking it very much amiss to be thus Charged by your people.

"For a proof of our Innocence we let you know that as soon as we had the news of your people being attacked we went immediately, we did not stay two Minutes, to the place of attack; we found no Enemy there, but we found an Indian that was killed by your people, a French Indian, we did not kill him but we scalped him, and have brought you the Scalp, which we would not have done if he had been of the number of our Friends. Brethren, I have done for the present."

The Governor after conferring with his Council gave this answer.

"Brethren:

"In behalf of the Government & People of Pennsylvania I give you thanks for this friendly visit.

"We are obliged to you for the Journey you took to the Nanticokes and for waking and warning them of their Danger. They are our Friends, and in doing a good Office to them you do a kindness to us.

"We also thank you for coming down & giving us warning of our Danger at this Time of Trouble.

"From the nature of our Government it is not in my power nor the power of any one man to say what the whole people shall do. I therefore cannot give you a positive answer to that part of your Speech wherein you desire to know whether we Will fight or not; but as the several men who have a right to determine that point now met, they are considering the present State of the Country and will consider what you have now said, and when we have agreed what shall be done you may depend on knowing it.

"The Government and Govering part of the People of this Province have never accused the Six Nations of any Breach of Faith; they ever did and still do esteem them their fast Friends and Allies; but as our people are numerous & scatered all over the Country, & not under the immediate eye of the Government, it is impossible to keep every Mouth in order. We, therefore, hope you will not take amiss any idle Tales that foolish chattering People may utter, or attribute any thing to the Government that they may say to your prejudice, but regard only what you hear from the Government, as that alone is to be depended upon as the true sense of the People of this Province."

Then the Governor applying himself to the Speaker said,

"Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen of the Assembly:

"You have heard what the Indians have said; Without Your aid I cannot make a proper answer to what they now propose and expect of us. I therefore desire you will return to your House, consider well of it, and whenever you will strengthen my Hands and enable me to give them a full and proper Answer I shall most readily do it.

At a Council held at Philad^{a.} Saturday Night, 8th November, 1755.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &c.

Robert Strettel,	Thomas Cadwalader,	Esqrs.
Lynford Lardner,	John Mifflin,	
Richard Peters,		

The Governor directed the Secretary to lay before the House the Copy of the Indian Treaty which they had requested in their Message of the Fifth Instant, and demanded the Papers that had been last sent to them.

He returned and acquainted the Governor that the House was adjourned, but having met the Speaker he delivered the Indian Treaty to him and demanded the Papers, and the Clerk was directed to deliver them.

The Governor informed the Council that he proposed to set out immediately to the back Counties; Whereupon the Board went into the Consideration of the several matters necessary to be done before the Governer's Departure. The first thing that occurred was to send for Mr. Weiser and the Indians and to acquaint them with the Governer's Journey, which being done they conferred together and made the following Speech:

"Brother the Governor—

"It gives us concern to see you preparing to go out of Town, being apprehensive that when you are gone our Business will be neglected; indeed if you go we shall take all for lost, and therefore We request you in the most pressing terms not to go, but to stay with your Council and Assembly and come to a Determination on the important Point we have spoke to you upon. We declare if we fail in this present Application we will not come here again nor trouble ourselves further with the Province, but leave it to its own Destruction and provide for our own safety in some other place and in the best manner we can. Be so good, therefore, as to grant our request and stay in Town. We shall then have some hopes of Success, otherwise we shall have none."

"The Governor considering that to-morrow was Sunday & the Assembly had adjourned themselves, & therefore to stay for their answer would occasion a long Delay that might prove prejudicial to the back Inhabitants, desired the advice of his Council on this new Difficulty, & they fearing least the suffering these Indians to go away without receiving a full and proper Satisfaction might occasion the loss of them and all our Friendly Indians, which would be of the last Consequence, Unanimously advised the Governor to stay and use his utmost Endeavors with his Assembly to strengthen his

Hands and enable him to engage these and the other Indians and take other vigorous Measures at the same Time.

Then the Governor acquainted the Indians that at their Instance he would put off his Journey, for which they returned him Thanks, and entered into a very serious Conference, wherein they declared they were reduced to the last Extremity. They could not even stay at Shamokin, which might have been prevented if the Government had paid a proper regard to their repeated Solicitations for a supply of Arms and Ammunition for their Warriors & of necessaries for their Wives and Children. That in particular they pressed this after the return of Scarroyady from his Journey up Sasquehannah, assuring the Governor that all those Indians had agreed to come together and live nearer to the English Settlements that they might be within call, and all they desired besides a supply of Necessaries for the Support of their Wives and Children was to be provided with Arms & Ammunition at the Publick Expence, and to see some of the English Young Men among them who might be witnesses of their Conduct be trained up to fight as they did, and go out to War with them. Let this be done even now, said they, and you shall see we will take some French Scalps and send them by your own Young men to this City for you to see with your own Eyes that we hate and will destroy the French as much as you do.

Scarrooyady being asked what number of Indians lived on the Sasquehannah, said "about Three hundred, who were all hearty in the English Interest, and waited with Impatience and to know the Success of his application."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Sunday the 9th Novem$^{r.}$ 1755.

PRESENT.

The Honourable **ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS**, Esq$^{r.}$ Lieutenant Governor, &$^{ca.}$

Robert Strettel, Lynford Lardner, }
Joseph Turner, Benjamin Shoemaker, } Esqrs.
Richard Peters, }

The Minutes of the Three Councils of Yesterday were read and approved, and the Governor drew up a Message to the Assembly to be delivered as soon as they should meet to-morrow Evening, which was agreed to in the these words:

The Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

"Gentlemen:

"After the Indians had in publick demanded the Assistance of this Government and desired to know what we intended to do, &

At a Council held at Philadelphia Saturday the Eighth Day of November 1755. A.M.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettel John Mifflin } Esquires.
Lynford Lardner Richard Peters }

Scarroyady, Andrew Montour, Scarroyady's Son, and Jagrea came into Council, with Conrad Weiser Esquire Interpreter.

The Governor bid the Indians welcome; was particularly obliged to them for this Visit; and would be glad of their Advice in these dangerous times.

Scarrooyady Speaker.

Brethren;

Since We saw one another last, affairs have taken a great Turn. We have now need to look about us in this dangerous time. I came down on purpose to encourage both Governor, Council, Wise men and Warriors; I have something to say to them of very great consequence.

Gave a String.

Scarrooyady then proceeds.

Brethren,

Two Meſsengers came from Ohio, to an Indian Town at the Big Island, on Sasquehannah, and seeing an Englishman, that by accident happened to be there, they said kill him. No, say the Indians of the Big Island, We will not kill him, nor suffer him to be killed; We have lived in Peace many Years with the English here; if You are so bloodthirsty, go somewhere else for Blood; go where the Blood already covers the Ground, We will have no Blood spilt here. These Two Meſsengers were Delawares, and said further, that they had something very extraordinary to say to them; And then, producing a Belt, offered to deliver a Meſsage from the Governor of Canada; but the Sasquehannah Indians stopped them, desiring they would defer their Speech, till they could send for some of their Neighbours; And when their Neighbours came, they delivered the following Speech in the Name of Onontio.

Children: I have often warned You to move from this River: You are Children; You must now go where I cannot hurt You; You are in my Way; You must not stay any Longer. I will allow You to wear a little Hatchet, that can kill a Bear, or a Deer, or an Englishman, a little Hatchet will serve for this Purpose. You wear Petticoats, do not therefore concern Yourselves in War, nor enquire any thing about Warriors; only move away from this River, that You may not stand in my Way. If You want Powder and Lead, I have enough at Ohio, it lies there in heaps, and You may have what Quantity You please. This last part of the Speech was made to the Delawares, and no Indians else.

Gave a Belt of Wampum.

The Two Ohio=Delawares proceeded, and told the Indians to send for all the Indians that were among the English. If Onontio finds any of your Indians, among the White People, he will kill them, and therefore he gives You this Warning, and be sure, mind what We say.

The Two Meſsengers said further. We, the Delawares of Ohio, do proclaim War against the English. We have been their Friends, many Years, but now have taken up the Hatchet, against them, and We will never make it up with them, while there is an Englishman alive.

We tell You, that the French have a numerous Alliance, of other Indians, as well as the Delawares, in this War.

[Danced the War Dance]

Then said further. When Washington was defeated, We, the Delawares, were blamed, as the cause of it. We will now kill: We will not be blamed, without a Cause. We make up Three Parties of Delawares. One Party will go against Carlisle; One down the Sasquehannah; and I myself, with another Party, will go against Tulpyhoccon to Conrad Weiser. And We shall be followed by a Thousand French and Indians, Otowawas, Twightwees, Shawnese and other Delawares.

The French have, on this Occasion, summoned in all their allies, and they are preparing to come. The Number, I am not certain of: But all the Indians, except the Chickasaws, are for the French, and the Thousand Indians, before mentioned had actually left the Fort, before We, the meſsengers, came away.

Then Scarrooyady acquainted the Governor, that he had a

Meſsage to deliver from the Sasquehannah Indians to the Governor, Wisemen, and People, of this Province, and desired to be heard in publick, and that the Aſsembly might be present.

The Governor sent a Meſsage by the Secretary, to give the Aſsembly Notice of this, and appointed three o'Clock in the afternoon, in the State House, to hear the Indian Meſsage.

A true Copy Examined by
Richard Peters Secry

Minutes of Council
8 Novr 1755
This paper was sent me by the Governour of
Pensilvania and is certified by the Secretary.

At a Council held at the State House Saturday 8th November 1755. P.M.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell	Thomas Cadwalader	Esquires
Lynford Lardner	Richard Peters	

Indians

Scarrooyady - - - - - - - - - - an Oneido.
Jagrea - - - - - - - - - - - - a Mohock.
Andrew Montour.

Conrad Weiser Esquire, Interpreter.

The Speaker, and Members of Assembly, several Magistrates, officers and Citizens.

The Governor ordered the Interpreter to tell the Indians, that he, his Council, the Assembly, and the good People of the City, were met, at their Instance, and ready to hear them.

Scarrooyady, addressing himself to the Governor and all present, made the following Speech.

Brethren;

I let You know, that I am returned from my Journey, which, when I was last here, I told You I intended to take; I went as far up the River Sasquehannah, as where the Nanticokes live. I told them, that I had undertaken that Journey purposely to alarm them, to apprize them of the Approach of very heavy Storms, and to warn them of imminent danger. I bid them rouse, and awake, and hearken to the Noise, that was all about them; and that, if they did not now awake, the first Noise they would hear would be the Noise of the Tomhock upon their Heads. I went, in this manner to all the Indians; and I know their Sentiments. I want to know Yours; I want You to open your Hearts; I want to look into their Insides. I must now know if You will stand by Us, to be plain, if You will fight, or not. You must be as sensible of Danger, as the Indians, and therefore, speak plain to Us. We shall then know, what to do. Be persuaded that We are determined to know the Certainty of your Measures, before We take any of Ourselves.

Then taking a double Belt of Wampum, one Black, the other White, with a String tied to the End of the Black Belt.

He proceeded to relate the Particulars of what paſsed between him and the Nanticokes and other Indians on Sasquehannah, saying, I told them that the Defeat of General Braddock had brought about a great Turn of Affairs. It was a great Blow — But what then, though We were struck half Way to the Ground, I told them, We had Strength enough left, to recover, and that tho Onontio, since that time, was grown proud, exceeding proud, yet if they would exert themselves, with Us, We might, yet, subdue the Pride of Onontio. And then I gave them the Belt, with the Hatchet in it, which they took, readily, and gave another Belt, and tied it to mine, in order to make the Hatchet the sharper, and give it the greater Weight.

At the same time, they told me, that they had heard a Noise of Guns, but did not know where it came from; and they thanked me, for coming to let them know their Danger, and from what Quarter the Noise came; that they hated Onontio, and would chearfully aſsist against him; Whoever sent to them first, they would go to first, whether it should be their Brethren, the English, or the Six Nations; Whoever sent first, should be first aſsisted. And that it was further agreed by all the Nations of Indians on Sasquehannah, that I should go to Philadelphia, and apply, immediately, to the Government, and obtain an explicit Answer from them, whether they would fight, or no.

Scarrooyady then threw the Belts upon the Table, and proceeded.

Brethren,

I must deal plainly with You, and tell You, if You will not fight with Us, We will go somewhere else. We never can, nor ever will, put up the Affront. If We cannot be safe where We are, We will go somewhere else, for Protection, and take care of Ourselves.

We have more to say, but will first receive your Answer to this: and as the Times are too dangerous to admit of our staying long here, We therefore entreat You will use all the Dispatch poſsible, that We may not be detained.

Brethren,

We are charged, with having been concerned, in a late Engagement that the Enemy had with your People. We absolutely deny it; We hate Onontio, as much as You do, and cannot help taking it very much amiſs, to be thus charged by your People.

For a Proof of our Innocence, We let You know, that as soon as We had the News of your People being attacked, We went immediately, We did not stay two Minutes, to the Place of Attack. We found no Enemy there, but We found an Indian, that was killed by your People, a French Indian; We did not kill him, but We scalped him, and have brought You the Scalp, which We would not have done, if he had been of the Number of our Friends.

Brethren,

I have done, for the present.

The Governor, after conferring with his Council, gave this answer.

Brethren;

In Behalf of the Government and People of Pennsylvania, I give You Thanks for this Friendly Visit.

We are obliged to You, for the Journey You took to the Nanticokes, and for waking and warning them of their Danger. They are our Friends, and in doing a good Office, to them, You do a Kindneſs to Us.

We also thank You for coming down, and giving Us Warning of our Danger, at this Time of Trouble.

From the Nature of our Government, it is not in my Power, nor in the Power of any One Man, to say, what the whole People shall do: I therefore cannot give You a positive answer, to that Part of your Speech, wherein You desire to know, whether We will fight, or not; but as the several Men, who have a Right to determine that Point, are now met, they are considering the present State of the Country, and will consider what You have now said; and when We have agreed what shall be done, You may depend on knowing it.

The Government, and governing Part of the People of this Province have never accused the Six Nations, of any Breach of Faith; they ever did, and still do, esteem them their fast Friends and Allies; but as our People are numerous, and scattered all over the Country, and not under the immediate Eye of the Government, it is impoſsible to keep every Mouth in order: We therefore hope, that You will not take a miſs, any idle Tales that foolish chattering People may utter; Or attribute anything to the Government, that they may say, to your Prejudice: But regard, only what You hear from the Government, as that, alone, is to be depended upon, as the true Sense of the People of this Province.

Then the Governor applying himself to the Speaker said.

Mr. Speaker and Gentlemen
of the Aſsembly. - - - - - }

You have heard, what the Indians have said. Without your Aid, I cannot make a proper Answer, to what they now propose, and expect of

Us: I therefore desire You will return to your House, consider well of it; and whenever You will strengthen my Hands, and enable me to give them a full, and proper, Answer, I shall, most readily, do it.

A true Copy Examined by
Richard Peters Secry

Minutes of Council
Nov 8. 1755

This paper was sent me by the Governor of Pensilvania and is certified by the Secretary

India 17
Hist Society of Pennsylvania ge

At a Council held at Philadelphia Sunday the 9th Novemr. 1755

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esqr. Lieutenant Governor &ca.

Robert Strettell Lynford Lardner
Joseph Turner Benjamin Shoemaker } Esqrs.
Richard Peters

The Minutes of the Three Councils of Yesterday were read and approved, and the Governor drew up a Meſsage to the Aſsembly to be delivered as soon as they should meet to morrow Evening which was agreed to in these Words,

A Meſsage from the Governor to the Aſsembly.

Gentlemen

After the Indians had in publick demanded the Aſsistance of this Government and desired to know what we intended to do & whether they were to depend upon us for Protection, or take care of themselves; They came to me in Council & informed me by Mr. Weiser the Provincial Interpreter that they and their Brethren, living upon the Sasquehannah, who were about three hundred fighting men were now the only Indians in this part of the Continent besides the Six Nations ~~who~~ that remained firm to the English Interest, the French having, at a great Expence, and by variety of Artifices, gained to their Alliance not only the Delawares & Shawanese, but other very numerous Nations to the Westward compared to whom they were but a Handful: That the French & those their Allies were coming down against the English and had given them notice to get out of the way: That the Body of the Six Nations were employed in protecting their own Country, and aſsisting the English to the Northward and could not therefore afford them any help at so great a Distance; wherefore they declared that they and their Brethren were willing to act in Conjunction with the English against the French and their Allies, but that in their present Situation and Circumstances they could not take the weight of the War upon themselves.

What they desire from us at present is, that we would put the Hatchet into their Hands that we would send a number of our Young men to act in Conjunction with their Warriors and furnish the neceſsary Arms, Ammunition & Provisions, That we would build some strong Houses for the Protection of their old Men Women and Children, and that they may be supplied from time to time with neceſsaries.

They further insist upon knowing the resolutions of this Government as to these matters & upon having an explicit answer without further Delay, that they may ~~[illegible]~~ prepare to act with us, or take the neceſsary measures for their own Security. They have aſsured us in a very solemn and peremptory manner that this is the last application they intend to make, in which if they do not succeed they can have no longer any Dependance upon us, but must leave us an infatuated People to the Mercy of our Enemies.

I must observe Gentlemen, that I cannot but look upon this as one of the most important matters that ever came under your Consideration. You know your own critical Situation, and cannot be strangers to theirs: The Enemy is daily laying waste our Country & it cannot be expected that these Indians will expose themselves forces to the fury of Nations far more powerful than themselves, unleſs we vigorously support and aſsist them. - Indians are of a martial Spirit, and at such a Season as this must be in Action. If therefore they find that we continue to refuse either to act in defence of ourselves or them, they must neceſsarily leave us, and throw themselves for protection into the hands of the French, our busy Enemy, who will spare no Expence or Trouble to gain such an advantage & are at this time using every Artifice to corrupt & alienate them from our Interest.

How fatal this must prove to us, and all the English Colonies, You, Gentlemen, cannot be ignorant. The effects of our last Disputes have already been too severely felt, and it is to be feared if the present politicks and pacific Measures are persisted in, the Consequences will be still more dreadful; Let me therefore earnestly recommend it to you, that you will enable me to put the Hatchet into their Hands and afford them the Aſsistance of the Province in such a manner as they desire.

Your vigorous and hearty Compliance may be a means of restoring Quiet to our poor back Settlers who are daily calling out for that protection from us which is justly due to them, But if, thro refusal these Indians should be obliged not only to leave us, but to act against us, all the dreadful Consequences of it must be left at your Door; for I am ready and desirous to do any thing, consistent with my duty to the Crown for the protection & aſsistance as well of these our Allies as of the Inhabitants of this Province in general.

Upon this important affair, Gentlemen, and at the preſsing Instances of these Indians, I have put off my Journey to the back Settlements, altho I conceive my presence among them at this time to be extremely neceſsary. Let me therefore recommend Dispatch to you as these Indians are so preſsing to be gone, in order to see after their Families and Friends, declaring in the strongest manner, that they have not a moment to lose and must take their Measures immediately.

Philadelphia
November 10. 1755.

Robert Hunter Morris

At a Council ~~held~~ at Philadelphia Wednesday 12th: 1755

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esqr. Lieutenant Governor &ca.

Robert Strettell
Joseph Turner
Lynford Lardner
Benjamin Shoemaker
Richard Peters
John Mifflin } Esqrs.

The Governor informed the Council that the Meſsage agreed to on Sunday was delivered by the Secretary immediately on the Meeting of the House and notwithstanding the Importance of the Affair, it was only last night that he received their Answer, & that a negative one which was read in these words.

A Meſsage to the Governor from the Aſsembly.

May it please the Governor,

We have considered the Governors Meſsage of Yesterday relating to the application and preſsing Instances of the Indians and are glad to find that he is at length prevailed on to declare

Hands and enable him to engage these and the other Indians and take other vigorous Measures at the same Time.

Then the Governor acquainted the Indians that at their Instance he would put off his Journey, for which they returned him Thanks, and entered into a very serious Conference, wherein they declared they were reduced to the last Extremity. They could not even stay at Shamokin, which might have been prevented if the Government had paid a proper regard to their repeated Solicitations for a supply of Arms and Ammunition for their Warriors & of necessaries for their Wives and Children. That in particular they pressed this after the return of Scarroyady from his Journey up Sasquehannah, assuring the Governor that all those Indians had agreed to come together and live nearer to the English Settlements that they might be within call, and all they desired besides a supply of Necessaries for the Support of their Wives and Children was to be provided with Arms & Ammunition at the Publick Expence, and to see some of the English Young Men among them who might be witnesses of their Conduct be trained up to fight as they did, and go out to War with them. Let this be done even now, said they, and you shall see we will take some French Scalps and send them by your own Young men to this City for you to see with your own Eyes that we hate and will destroy the French as much as you do.

Scarrooyady being asked what number of Indians lived on the Sasquehannah, said "about Three hundred, who were all hearty in the English Interest, and waited with Impatience and to know the Success of his application."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Sunday the 9th Novemr. 1755.

PRESENT.

The Honourable **ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS**, Esqr. Lieutenant Governor, &ca.

Robert Strettel, Lynford Lardner,
Joseph Turner, Benjamin Shoemaker, } Esqrs.
Richard Peters,

The Minutes of the Three Councils of Yesterday were read and approved, and the Governor drew up a Message to the Assembly to be delivered as soon as they should meet to-morrow Evening, which was agreed to in the these words:

The Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

"Gentlemen:

"After the Indians had in publick demanded the Assistance of this Government and desired to know what we intended to do, &

whether they were to depend upon us for Protection or take care of themselves, They came to me in Council & informed me by Mr. Weiser, the Provincial Interpreter, that they and their Brethren living upon the Sasquehannah, who were about three hundred fighting men, were now the only Indians in this part of the Continent besides the Six Nations that remained firm to the English Interest, the French having, at a great Expence and by variety of Artifices, gained to their Alliance not only the Delawares & Shawanese, but other very numerous Nations to the Westward, compared to whom they were but a Handful; that the French & those their Allies were coming down against the English and had given them notice to get out of the way; That the Body of the Six Nations were employed in protecting their own Country and assisting the English to the Northward, and could not, therefore, afford them any help at so great a Distance, wherefore they declared that they and their Brethren were willing to act in Conjunction with the English against the French and their Allies, but that in their present Situation and Circumstances they could not take the weight of the War upon themselves.

"What they desire from us at present is, that we would put the Hatchet into their Hands; that we would send a number of our Young Men to act in Conjunction with their Warriors and furnish the necessary Arms, Ammunition, & Provisions; That we would build some strong Houses for the Protection of their old men, Women, and Children, and that they may be supplied from time to time with necessaries.

"They further insist upon knowing the resolutions of this Government as to these matters, & upon having an explicit answer without further Delay, that they may prepare to act with us or take the necessary measures for their own Security. They have assured us in a very solemn and peremptory manner that this is the last application they intend to make, in which, if they do not succeed, they can have no longer any Dependance upon us, but must leave us an infatuated People to the Mercy of our Enemies.

"I must observe, Gentlemen, that I cannot but look upon this as one of the most important matters that ever came under your Consideration. You know your own critical Situation, and cannot be strangers to theirs. The Enemy is daily laying waste our Country, & it cannot be expected that these Indians will expose themselves, for us to the fury of nations far more powerful than themselves unless we vigorously support and assist them. Indians are of a martial Spirit, and in such a Season as this must be in Action. If, therefore, they find that we continue to refuse either to act in defence of ourselves or them, they must necessarily leave us and throw themselves for protection into the hands of the French, our busy Enemy, who will spare no Expence or Trouble to gain such an advantage, & are at this time using every Artifice to corrupt & alienate them from our Interest.

"How fatal this must prove to us and all the English Colonies You, Gentlemen, cannot be ignorant. The effects of our last Disputes have already been too severely felt, and it is to be feared if the present Politicks and Pacific Measures are persisted in the Consequences will be still more dreadful. Let me, therefore, earnestly recommend it to you that you will enable me to put the Hatchet into their Hands and afford them the Assistance of the Province in such a manner as they desire.

"Your vigorous and hearty Compliance may be a means of restoring Quiet to our poor Back Settlers, who are daily calling out for that protection from us which is justly due to them. But if thro' refusal these Indians should be obliged not only to leave us but to act against us, all the dreadful Consequences of it must be left at your door; for I am ready and desirous to do any thing consistent with any duty to the Crown for the protection & Assistance, as well of these our Allies as of the Inhabitants of this Province in general.

"Upon this important affair, Gentlemen, and at the pressing Instances of these Indians, I have put off my Journey to the back Settlements, altho' I conceive my presence among them at this time to be extremely necessary. Let me, therefore, recommend Dispatch to you as these Indians are so pressing to be gone, in order to see after their Families and Friends, declaring in the strongest manner that they have not a moment to lose, and must take their Measures immediately.

"ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS.

"Philadelphia, November 10, 1755."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Wednesday, November 12th, 1755.

PRESENT:

"The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor, &ca.

Robert Strettel, Benjamin Shoemaker,
Joseph Turner, Richard Peters, Esquires.
Lynford Lardner, John Mifflin,

"The Governor informed the Council that the Message agreed to on Sunday was delivered by the Secretary immediately on the Meeting of the House, and notwithstandg. the Importance of the Affair it was only last night that he received their Answer, & that a negative one, which was read in these words:

A Message to the Governor from the Aſsembly.

"May it please the Governor:

"We have considered the Governor's Message of Yesterday, How fatal this must prove to us, and all the English Colonies, You, Gentlemen, cannot be ignorant. The effects of our last Disputes have already been too severely felt, and it is to be feared if the present politicks and pacific Measures are persisted in, the Consequences will be still more dreadful; Let me therefore earnestly recommend it to you, that you will enable me to put the Hatchet into their Hands and afford them the Aſsistance of the Province in such a manner as they desire.

Your vigorous and hearty Compliance may be a means of restoring Quiet to our poor back Settlers who are daily calling out for that protection from us which is justly due to them, But if, thro refusal these Indians should be obliged not only to leave us, but to act against us, all the dreadful Consequences of it must be laid at your Door; for I am ready and desirous to do any thing, consistent with my duty to the Crown for the protection & aſsistance as well of these our Allies as of the Inhabitants of this Province in general.

Upon this important affair, Gentlemen, and at the preſsing Instances of these Indians, I have put off my Journey to the back Settlements, altho I conceive my presence among them at this time to be extremely neceſsary. Let me therefore recommend Despatch to you as these Indians are so preſsing to be gone, in order to see after their Families and Friends, declaring in the strongest manner, that they have not a moment to lose and must take their Measures immediately.

Philadelphia }
November 10. 1755. }

Robert Hunter Morris

At a Council held at Philadelphia Wednesday 12th: 1755

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esqr. Lieutenant Governor &ca.

Robert Strettel	Benjamin Shoemaker	} Esqrs.
Joseph Turner	Richard Peters	}
Lynford Lardner	John Mifflin	}

The Governor informed the Council that the Meſsage agreed to on Sunday was delivered by the Secretary immediately on the Meeting of the House and notwithstandg. the Importance of the Affair, it was only last night that he received their Answer, & that a negative one which was read in these words.

A Meſsage to the Governor from the Aſsembly.

May it please the Governor,

We have considered the Governors Meſsage of Yesterday relating to the application and preſsing Instances of the Indians and are glad to find that he is at length prevailed on to declare himself "ready and desirous to do any thing consistent "with his Duty to the Crown for the protection & Aſsistance as well of our Allies as of "the Inhabitants of this province in general". We never have & we hope never shall desire him to do any thing inconsistent with that Duty. He has it now in his power to do what he think the Exigence requires for the Service of the Crown, the protection of our Allies and of the Inhabitants of the province. As Captain General, he has by the Royal Charter, full authority to raise men; and the Bill now in his Hands granting Sixty thousand pounds, will enable him to pay the Expences. We grant the Money chearfully, tho' the Tax to sink it will be a heavy one; and we hope the Bill will receive his aſsent immediately.

Signed by order of the House
Isaac Norris Speaker

November 11th. 1755

The Council, astonished to see the obstinacy of the Aſsembly carry them such Lengths as not to enable the Governor to give a Satisfactory answer to the Indians after their making so solemn and peremptory a Demand; considered what answer to make to Scarroyady, and after a long Consultation it was thought best to tell him the truth; and being sent for he was accordingly told by the Governor that the Aſsembly not having agreed to raise Money in such manner as it could be accepted of, he was laid under the neceſsity of acquainting him with it, and that as their Concurrence was neceſsary in raising Money, and he had none at his own Disposal he did not know what to do in this preſsing Exigency. Scarrooyady received the answer with amazement, saying, it would occasion the absolute Defection of the Delawares, who by proper Encouragements might even now be secured in our Interest; but notwithstanding this the Chief still offered his own Services, and desired the Governor not to be cast down, but take Time and enter cooly into the Consideration of what could be done in which he would give his Aſsistance heartily.

The Governor likewise received yesterday the Aſsembly's answer to his Meſsage of the Eighth Instant together with a Bill entituled "An Act for the Supply of the Western and " Northern Indians, Friends and Allies of Great Britain with goods at more easy rates, " supporting an Agent or Agents among them and preventing abuses in the Indian Trade" which were both read.

A Meſsage to the Governor from the Aſsembly.

May it please the Governor,

The House came together at this time with the sincerest Dispositions to avoid if poſsible, all the Disputes with the Governor on any account whatever, and being deeply affected with the present diſtreſsful Circumstances of the Frontier Counties, determined to do for the publick safety and Welfare every thing that could reasonably be expected from them either as dutiful Subjects to the Crown, or Lovers of their Country.

Accordingly on reading the Governors Meſsage of the third Instant; with the papers accompanying the same, a Bill was immediately proposed for raising a large Sum for the Kings Service and to strike the same in Paper Bills, and providing a Fund for sinking the whole within five Years, as recommended by the Governor.

In the mean time, as this Colony has been founded on Maxims of Peace & had hitherto maintained an uninterrupted Friendship with the Natives by a strict observation of Treaties, conferring Benefits on them from time to time as well as doing them Justice on all Occasions, it could not but surprize us to hear, that our old Friends were on a sudden become our cruel Enemies. And as the Governor was pleased to tell us "the French "had gained the Delawares and Shawanese to their Interest under the ensnaring pretence "of restoring them to their Country;" it seemed natural & proper for us to enquire on this Occasion whether the Indians complained of any Injury from this Province, either in regard to their Lands, or on any other account, and to expreſs our readineſs to do them Justice (in case such Complaints were well founded) before Hostilities were returned & the Mischief grew more extensive. For our better information of this matter, & without Intending the least offence to the Governor, we requested he would be pleased to lay before us the last Treaty held with them in September. Our Meſsage to this effect was sent up on the second day after our entering upon Buſineſs. But the Governor vouchsafed us no answer till now. and seems exceedingly displeased with the Application.

"From the Governors immediate refusal of his aſsent to a Bill of so much Importance when he had but "just received it" from us, and his saying it is "of the same kind with one "he had before refused his aſsent to," we apprehend his refusal arises from his not having allowed himself time to consider it. Indeed all Bills for raising Money for publick uses are so far of the same kind; but this differs greatly from every former Bill that has been offered him, and all the Amendments (of any Consequence) which he proposed to the Bill he last refused are in this Bill admitted, save that for totally exempting the Proprietary Estate. And we being as desirous as the Governor to avoid any dispute on that head, have so framed the Bill as to submit it entirely to his Majesty's Royal Determination, whether that Estate has or has not a right to such Exemption. There is so much time allowed by the Bill, that the Kings pleasure may poſsibly be known even before the first Aſseſsment; but it is moreover provided, that if at any time during the continuance of the Act, the Crown should think fit to declare that the Estates of the proprietaries in this province ought to be exempted, in such case the tax, tho' aſseſsed shall, not be levied, or if any part has been levied, the same shall be refunded to the proprietaries and an Additional Tax laid on the People to supply the Deficiency. We cannot conceive any thing more fair and reasonable than this, nor could we poſsibly imagine that the Governor would object to it or what he could object to it, since the words in his Commiſsion which he pleased to suppose contain an expreſs prohibition of his paſsing such a Bill as this, do not appear to us to have any such meaning, and we presume will not to any others, who may be thought more impartial. If it be one of the "just Rights of Government" that the Proprietary Estates should be exempted in a Tax for the common Defence of all Estates in the province, those just rights are well understood in England; the Proprietaries are there upon the spot, and so can the more easily sollicit their own case and make their Right of Exemption appear, if such a right there be; and were they at as great a distance as we are, they might nevertheleſs safely confide in his Majesty's known Wisdom and impartial Justice, that all their just rights would be duly preserved. The Equity of their being taxed on this Occasion for their Estate in this province, has appeared so plain even to their best Friends here, that they entered into a Voluntary subscription to pay for them what they supposed the Tax might amount to, being aſsured, as they said, that if the Proprietaries were present, it would be altogether unneceſsary, and that they would freely repay what should be thus advanced for them; which Subscription was put into the Governors hands for his Security. If the Proprietaries should chuse to shew their good will to the Service, this Bill, if paſsed, might give them a happy opportunity of doing it, by generously solliciting the Kings Approbation to the Law, and refusing to petition for the exemption. And since this Right of

Exemption contended for in their Behalf, is never like to be settled here between the Governor and Assembly, the Bill puts it in the proper Train to be finally determined, and all future disputes about it effectually prevented: ——

Our Assemblies have of late had so many Supply Bills & of such different Kinds rejected, rejected on various Pretences; Some for not complying with obsolete occasional Instructions (tho' other Acts exactly of the same Tenor had been past since those Instructions, and received the Royal Assent;) some for being inconsistent with the supposed Spirit of an Act of Parliament, when the Act itself did not any way affect us, being made expressly for other Colonies; Some for being, as the Governor was pleased to say, "of an extraordinary nature" without informing us wherein that extraordinary Nature consisted, & others for disagreeing with new discovered meanings and forced constructions of a Clause in the Proprietary Commission; that we are now really at a loss to divine what Bill can possibly pass. The Proprietary Instructions are secrets to us, and we may spend much time, and much of the publick Money in preparing and framing Bills for Supply, which, after all, must from those Instructions prove abortive. If we are thus to be driven from Bill to Bill, without one solid Reason afforded us; and can raise no Money for the Kings Service and relief or Security of our Country, till we fortunately hit on the only Bill the Governor is allowed to Pass, or till we consent to make such as the Governor or proprietaries direct us to make, we see little use of Assemblies in this particular, and think we might as well leave it to the Governor or proprietaries to make for us what Supply Laws they please, and save ourselves and the Country the Expence and Trouble. All debates and all reasonings are vain, where proprietary Instructions, just or unjust, right or wrong, must inviolably be observed. We have only to find out, if we can, what they are, and then submit and obey. But surely the proprietaries conduct, whether as Fathers of their Country or Subjects to their King, must appear extraordinary, when it is considered that they have not only formally refused to bear any part of our Yearly heavy Expences in Cultivating and maintaining Friendship with the Indians, tho' they reap such immense Advantages by that Friendship; but they now, by their Lieutenant refuse to contribute any part towards resisting an Invasion of the Kings Colony, committed to their Care; or to submit their Claim of Exemption to the Decision of their Sovereign.

In fine, we have the most sensible concern for the poor distressed Inhabitants of the Frontiers. We have taken every step in our power consistent with the just rights of the Freemen of Pennsylvania for their Relief and we have reason to believe that in the midst of their Distresses they themselves do not wish us to go farther. Those who would give up essential Liberty, to purchase a little Temporary safety, deserve neither Liberty nor safety. — Such as were inclined to defend themselves, but unable to purchase Arms, and Ammunition, have, as we are informed, been supplied with both, as far as Arms could be procured, out of Monies given by the last Assembly for the Kings use; and the large Supply of Money offered by this Bill might enable the Governor to do every thing else, that should be judged necessary for their farther Security, if he shall think fit to accept it. Whether he could, as he supposes, "if his "Hands had been properly strengthened, have put the Province into such a posture "of Defence, as might have prevented the present mischiefs, seems to us uncertain; since late Experience in our neighbouring Colony of Virginia (which had every advantage for that purpose that could be desired) shews clearly that it is next to impossible to guard effectually an extended Frontier, settled by scattered single Families, at two or three Miles Distance so as to secure them from the insiduous attacks of small parties of Skulking Murderers: — But thus much is certain that by refusing our Bills from time to time by which great sums were seasonably offered he has rejected all the strength that Money could afford him; and if his Hands are still weak or unable he ought only to blame himself, or those who have tied him.

If the Governor proceeds on his Journey, and takes a Quorum of his Council with him, we hope, since he retains our Bill, that it will be seriously and duly considered by them. & that the same regard for the publick Welfare which induced them unanimously to advise his intended Journey, will induce them as unanimously to advise his assent. We agree therefore to his keeping the Bill, earnestly requesting he would reconsider it attentively, and shall be ready at any time to meet him for the purpose of enacting it into a Law.

Signed by order of the House,
Isaac Norris, Speaker.

November 11th 1755.

The Bill for striking the sum of £60,000 was read and compared paragraph by paragraph, but it growing late before proper conclusions could be agreed upon the Council adjourned to the Afternoon.

At a Council held on the 12th November 1755 P: M:

Present

The Governor and the same Members as in the forenoon

The proviso in the Governors Commission prohibiting him from doing any Act to encumber the proprietary Estate was read and considered, and the Governor declaring he did not think he had power to pass the Bill; he desired the Council would give him their advice upon the present state and circumstances of the province assuring them he was ready to come into any measures on the present situation of affairs consistent with his powers and the trust reposed in him.

The Council resumed the consideration of the said Bill and several matters together with the state of the provinces, and several matters were proposed but nothing determined

"How fatal this must prove to us and all the English Colonies You, Gentlemen, cannot be ignorant. The effects of our last Disputes have already been too severely felt, and it is to be feared if the present Politicks and Pacific Measures are persisted in the Consequences will be still more dreadful. Let me, therefore, earnestly recommend it to you that you will enable me to put the Hatchet into their Hands and afford them the Assistance of the Province in such a manner as they desire.

"Your vigorous and hearty Compliance may be a means of restoring Quiet to our poor Back Settlers, who are daily calling out for that protection from us which is justly due to them. But if thro' refusal these Indians should be obliged not only to leave us but to act against us, all the dreadful Consequences of it must be left at your door; for I am ready and desirous to do any thing consistent with any duty to the Crown for the protection & Assistance, as well of these our Allies as of the Inhabitants of this Province in general.

"Upon this important affair, Gentlemen, and at the pressing Instances of these Indians, I have put off my Journey to the back Settlements, altho' I conceive my presence among them at this time to be extremely necessary. Let me, therefore, recommend Dispatch to you as these Indians are so pressing to be gone, in order to see after their Families and Friends, declaring in the strongest manner that they have not a moment to lose, and must take their Measures immediately.

"ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS.

"Philadelphia, November 10, 1755."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Wednesday, November 12th, 1755.

PRESENT:

"The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor, &ca.

Robert Strettel,	Benjamin Shoemaker,	Esquires.
Joseph Turner,	Richard Peters,	
Lynford Lardner,	John Mifflin,	

"The Governor informed the Council that the Message agreed to on Sunday was delivered by the Secretary immediately on the Meeting of the House, and notwithstandg. the Importance of the Affair it was only last night that he received their Answer, & that a negative one, which was read in these words:

A Message to the Governor from the Assembly.

"May it please the Governor:

"We have considered the Governor's Message of Yesterday, relating to the application and pressing Instances of the Indians, and are glad to find that he is at length prevailed on to declare himself "ready and desirous to do any thing consistent with his Duty to the Crown for the Protection & Assistance as well of our Allies as of the Inhabitants of the Province in general." We never have, and we hope never shall desire him to do any thing inconsistent with that Duty. He has it now in his power to do what he think the Exigence requires for the Service of the Crown, the protection of ourselves and of the Inhabitants of the Province. As Captain General, he has by the Royal Charter full authority to raise men, and the Bill now in his Hands granting Sixty Thousand Pounds will enable him to pay the Expenses. We grant the Money chearfully, tho' the Tax to sink it will be a heavy one, and we hope the Bill will receive his assent immediately.

"Signed by order of the House,
"ISAAC NORRIS, Speaker.

"November 11th, 1755."

The Council astonished to see the obstinacy of the Assembly carry them such Lengths as not to enable the Governor to give a Satisfactory answer to the Indians, after their making so solemn and peremtory a Demand, considered what answer to make to Scarrooyady, and after a long Consultation it was thought best to tell him the truth; and being sent for, he was accordingly told by the Governor that the Assembly not having agreed to raise Money in such manner as it could be accepted of, he was laid under the necessity of acquainting him with it, and that as their Concurrence was necessary in raising Money, and he had none at his own Disposal, he did not know what to do in this pressing Exigency. Scarrooyady received the answer with amazement, saying it would occasion the absolute Defection of the Delawares, who by proper Encouragements might even now be secured in our Interest, but notwithstanding this the Chief still offered his own Services, and desired the Governor not to be cast down, but take time and enter cooly into the Consideration of what could be done, in which he would give his assistance heartily.

The Governor likewise received Yesterday the Assembly's answer to his Message of the Eighth Instant, together with a Bill entitled "An Act for the supply of the Western and Northern Indians, Friends and Allies of Great Britain with goods at more easy rates, supporting an Agent or Agents among them and preventing abuses in the Indian trade," which were both read:

A Message to the Governor from the Assembly.

"May it please the Governor:

"The House came together at this time with the sincerest Dispositions to avoid if possible all the Disputes with the Governor on any account whatever, and being deeply affected with the present distressful Circumstances of the Frontier Counties, determined to do for the Publick safety and Welfare everything that could reasonably be expected from them either as dutiful subjects to the Crown or Lovers of their Country.

"Accordingly, on reading the Governor's Message of the third Instant, with the Papers accompanying the same, a Bill was imediately proposed for raising a large sum for the King's Service, and to strike the same in Paper Bills, and providing a Fund for sinking the whole in Five Years as recommended by the Governor.

"In the mean time, as this Colony has been founded on Maxims of Peace, & had hitherto maintained an uninterrupted Friendship with the Natives by a strict observation of Treaties conferring benefits on them from time to time, as well as doing them Justice on all Occasions, it could not but surprize us to hear that our old Friends were on a sudden become our cruel Enemies. And as the Governor was pleased to tell us 'the French had gained the Delawares and Shawanese to their Interests under the ensnaring pretence of restoring them to their Country,' it seemed natural & proper for us to enquire on this Occasion whether the Indians complained of any Injury from this Province either in regard to their Lands or on any other account, and to express our readiness to do them Justice (in case such complaints were well founded) before Hostilities were returned & the Mischief grew more extensive. For our better information of this matter, & without intending the least offence to the Governor, we requested he would be pleased to lay before us the last Treaty held with them in September. Our Message to this effect was sent upon the second day after our entering upon Business, But the Governor vouchsafed us no answer till now, and seems exceedingly displeased with the Application.

"From the Governor's immediate refusal of his assent to a Bill of so much Importance when he had but 'just received it' from us, and his saying it is 'of the same kind with one he had before refused his assent to,' we apprehend his refusal arises from his not having allowed himself time to consider it. Indeed all Bills for raising Money for publick use are so far of the same kind; but this differs greatly from every former Bill that has been offered to him, and all the Amendments (of any Consequence) which he proposed to the bill he last refused are in this Bill admitted, save that for totally exempting the Proprietary Estate. And we being as desirous as the Governor to avoid any dispute on that head, have so framed the Bill as to submit it entirely to his Majesty's Royal Determination whether that Estate has or has not a right to such Exemption. There is so much time allowed by the Bill that the King's pleasure may possibly be known even before the first Assessment; but it is moreover provided that if at any time during the continuance of the Act the Crown should think fit to declare that the Estates of the

Proprietaries in this Province ought to be exempted, in such case the tax tho' assessed shall not be levied, or if any part has been levied the same shall be refunded to the Proprietaries, and an Additional Tax laid on the People to supply the Deficiency. We cannot conceive any thing more fair and reasonable than this, nor could we possibly imagine that the Governor would object to it, or what he could object to it, since the words in his Commission which he pleased to suppose contain an express prohibition of his passing such a Bill as this, do not appear to us to have any such meaning, and we presume will not to any others who may be thought more impartial. If it be one of the 'just Rights of Government' that the Proprietary Estates should be exempted in a Tax for the common Defence of all Estates in the Province, those just rights are well understood in England; the Proprietaries are there upon the spot, and so can the more easily sollicit their own cause and make their right of Exemption appear, if such a right there be; and were they at as great a distance as we are they might nevertheless safely confide in his Majesty's known Wisdom and impartial Justice that all their just rights would be duly preserved. The Equity of their being taxed on this Occasion for their Estate in this Province has appeared so plain even to their best Friends here that they entered into a Voluntary subscription to pay for them what they supposed the Tax might amount to, being assured, as they said, that if the Proprietaries were present it would be altogether unnecessary, and that they would freely repay what should be thus advanced for them, which Subscription was put into the Governor's hands for his Security. If the Proprietaries should chuse to shew their good will to the Service, this Bill if passed might give them a happy opportunity of doing it, by generously soliciting the King's approbation to the Law, and refusing to Petition for the exemption. And since this right of Exemption contended for in their Behalf is never like to be settled here between the Governor and Assembly, the Bill puts it in the proper Train to be finally determined, and all future disputes about it effectually prevented.

"Our Assemblies have of late had so many Supply Bills & of such different Kinds rejected on various Pretences, some for not complying with obsolete occasional Instructions (tho' other acts exactly of the same Tenor had been passed since those Instructions and received the Royal assent), some for being inconsistent with the supposed Spirit of an Act of Parliament when the Act itself did not any way affect us, being made expressly for other Colonies. Some for being as the Governor was pleased to say, "of an extraordinary nature," without informing us wherein that extraordinary Nature consisted, & others for disagreeing with new discovered meanings and forced constructions of a Clause in the Proprietary Commission, that we are now really at a loss to Divine what Bill can possibly pass.

"The Proprietary Instructions are secrets to us, and we may spend much time and much of the publick Money in preparing and framing Bills for Supply, which after all must from those Instructions prove abortive. If we are thus to be driven from Bill to Bill without one solid Reason afforded us, and can raise no money for the King's Service and relief or Security of our Country till we fortunately hit on the only Bill the Governor is allowed to Pass, or till we consent to make such as the Governor or Proprietaries directs us to make, we see little use of Assemblies in this particular, and think we might as well leave it to the Governor or Proprietaries to make for us what Supply Laws they please, and save ourselves and the Country the Expence and Trouble. All debates and all reasonings are vain, where Proprietary Instructions, just or unjust, right or wrong, must inviolably be observed. We have only to find out, if we can, what they are and then submit and obey. But surely the Proprietaries conduct, whether as Fathers of their Country or Subjects to their King, must appear extraordinary when it is considered that they have not only formally refused to bear any part of our Yearly heavy Expence in Cultivating and maintaining Friendship with the Indians, tho' they reap such immense advantages by the Friendship, but they now by their Lieutenant refuse to contribute any part towards resisting an Invasion of the King's Colony committed to their Care, or to submit their Claim of Exemption to the Decision of their Sovereign.

"In fine, we have the most Sensible concern for the poor distressed Inhabitants of the Frontiers. We have taken every step in our power consistent with the just rights of the Freemen of Pennsylvania for their relief, and we have reason to believe that in the midst of their Distresses they themselves do not wish us to go farther. Those who would give up essential Liberty to purchase a Little Temporary safety deserve neither Liberty nor safety. Such as were inclined to defend themselves but unable to purchase Arms and Ammunition, have, as we are informed, been supplied with both as far as Arms could be procured out of Monies given by the last Assembly for the King's use, and the large supply of money offered by this Bill might enable the Governor to do every thing else that should be judged necessary for their farther security, if he shall think fit to accept it. Whether he could as he supposes, 'if his Hands had been properly strengthened, Have put the Province into such a posture of Defence as might have prevented the present mischiefs,' seems to us uncertain, since late Experience in our neighboring Colony of Virginia (which had every advantage for that purpose that could be desired), shows clearly that it is next to impossible to guard effectually an extended Frontier, settled by scattered single Families at two or three miles Distance, so as to secure them from the insiduous attacks of small parties of skulking Murderers. But thus much is certain, that by refusing our Bills from time to time by which great sums were seasonably offered, he has rejected all the strength that money could afford him, and if his Hands are still weak or unable he ought only to blame himself or those who have tied him.

"If the Governor proceeds on his Journey and takes a Quorum of his Council with him, we hope, since he retains our Bill, that it will be seriously and duly considered by them, & that the same regard for the publick welfare which induced them unanimously to advise his intended Journey will induce them as unanimously to advise his assent. We agree, therefore, to his keeping the Bill, earnestly requesting he would reconsider it attentively, and shall be ready at any time to meet him for the purpose of enacting it into a Law.

"Signed by order of the House.

"ISAAC NORRIS, Speaker.

"November 11th, 1755."

The Bill for striking the sum of £60,000 was read and compared Paragraph by Paragraph, but it growing late before proper Conclusions could be agreed upon, the Council adjourned to the Afternoon.

At a Council held on the 12th November, 1755, P. M.

PRESENT:

The Governor and the same Members as in the forenoon.

The proviso in the Governor's Commission prohibiting him from doing any Act to encumber the Proprietary Estate was read and considered, and the Governor declaring he did not think he had power to pass the Bill, he desired the Council would give him their advice upon the present state and Circumstances of the Province, assuring them he was ready to come into any measures on the present situation of Affairs consistent with his powers and the trust reposed in him.

The Council resumed the Consideration of the said Bill, and several matters, together with the state of the Province, and several matters were proposed, but nothing determined.

At a Council the fourteenth of November, 1755.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &ca.

Benjamin Shoemaker	Thomas Cadwalader,	Esquires.
Joseph Turner,	Richard Peters,	
John Mifflin,	Robert Strettell,	

The Act intituled "An Act for supplying the Western and

give the French the Dominion of the great of the whole

8th That proper Persons be appointed by the Commissioners to return with the Indians from the Treaty into their own Country, if Necessary to Conduct the Warriors, to such places as shall be appointed for their Rendezvous, where Stores of Provisions Arms and Ammunition should be provided for their use ——

Instructions of the Hon.ble Robert Hunter Morris Esqr. Lieut. Governor &ca

To Scarroyady One of the Chiefs of the Oneida Nations & Mr. Andrew Montour of the County of Cumberland —

Our former Friends the Delawares residing at Ohio having fallen upon our back Inhabitants in a most cruel manner without giving us the least Notice of it. I have thought it Necessary to send an Account thereof with all possible Dispatch to the Six Nations & as you have kindly offer'd to undertake this Journey by the way of Sasquehannah, I instruct you to make to make all the haste possible & as you travel along apprize all our friendly Indians of this Unexpected Treatment of the Ohio Delawares, & where you think it right apply on the part of this Government for Assistance; And that you may observe the Indian Ceremonies Necessary on these Occasion, I have entrusted to your Care a Quantity of Belts & Strings of Wampum confiding in your Prudence & Judgment in the distribution of them. —

When you arrive among the Six Nations you are first to present to them the Condolances of this Government for the Deaths of the several Warriors who joined Gen. Shirley & Genl. Johnson & fell in Battle; Remove Sorrow & Grief who live near the Minisink's on the River Delaware a few days ago told their Uncles [the five Nations] that they would not join with their Brethren against the English but would live & die with the five

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Grief from their Hearts & wipe away the Tears from their Eyes —

When this done & they can see you & hear what you have to say, let them know that you two are Messengers sent by the Government of Pensilvania to the Six United Nations on a very extraordinary matter that has happen'd there and pray them to hearken to what you say & give it the Strictest attention & then make the following Speech in my Name ——

Brethren,

Your Cousins the Delawares who live at Ohio whom we have hitherto looked upon as our own Children whom we nursed & Cherished in our Bosoms, whom we have Supported & with whom we have lived from our Infancy in perfect Love and Tenderness, have in a most cruel manner fallen upon & murdered our Inhabitants, People whose houses were always open to them, & who had given them every kind thing they asked.

Brethren

It was but the very last Year they gave us a kind & a friendly Meeting & at their own Instance the Treaties Subsisting between us were mutually renewed; & when they parted with us they gave us assurances, of their continuing our Friends whilst the Waters should run down the Rivers. And on our part in token of the Sincere Love we bore them, we then told them that the times were Stormy, they were much exposed where they lived, to danger, & were but few in Number & consequently a very unequal Match for Onontio's People & therefore in Tenderness to their Lives and to prevent Evil befalling them we desired them, not to Engage but to continue

quiet

give the French the Dominion of the great of the whole

[illegible]

quiet till they should hear further from us. They acknowledged this as kind Advice & thanked us & promised to do so & Confirmed all by Belts of Wampum.—

Brethren

All this paſsed between us but the very last Year, & we never dreamed of their Hearts could be poisoned by the Enemy. or the Flame of Love so soon extinguished in their Breasts; but the Truth is that without giving us any Notice, these Indians have enter'd our province in Arms & killed the poor people that were Settled on our Borders; Innocent persons, who where resting peaceably in their beds & expecting no harm!— They struck the Tomhock in their Brains— Their houses & Stacks of Corn & hay they set on Fire, their Cattle stabbed & their Carcases they left weltering in their blood exposed to the Wild Beasts, no friend by hand daring to put them in the Earth.—

Our people lived without Arms; they thought there was no need of Arms, being Secure of the friendship of the Indians— The Warriours of all Nations paſsed & Repaſsed & never hurt them, but partook of what they had. Your Cousins knew this, & yet they have not only fallen upon our Inhabitants & killed them; but have exercised greater Cruelties than the french Indians ever did in all the last Warr.—

Brethren of the Six united Nations

These Delawares are your Cousins and under your direction. We therefore acquaint you that they have thus treated us as Enemies & broken thro' the Chain of Friendship: Let us know whether this was done with your knowledge & Consent, or by your Order & whether you will

Correct—

Susquehanna I and Mr. Adam Read counted those that were with
[illegible] them 320

[illegible] into our Country and to be prepared in the best manner

A Letter of John Potts Conrad Weiser and others Letter

Copy of a Letter from George Stevenson to Jno. Wright Esqr.

Sir

Least the Travellers who go thro' this Town should not Cross your Ferry, I take this opportunity to tell you that about 82 Familys has passed thro' this Town to day, several of whom say (especially the last I spoke with) that the burning and Murder continues from the Cove down thro' the Conegocheague Settlement that his Plantation is Situate two Miles from Wm. Maxwells that he stayd till the Violence of the Smoke drove him away without Cow, Horse (two Excepted) or any other Houshold Goods besides what them two Horses carried under the Children that Justice Maxwell was removd into the Fort at Mr. Steel's Meeting House, but that he (my Informer whose Name I have forgot) thought that Fort could not hold out 24 Hours. That Mr. Hamilton was on our South Mountain Yesterday with 100 Men waiting for more — and that it was said he designd to try to intercept their Passage there.

Adam Hoops Wife is come here whilst I wrote by whom I have a Letter from Adam but the Letter you saw from him to day by Express inclosed in mine is dated since so that is no News. I would be glad to know what yours, Br. and Sister think or what you can allow and I can't get to see you shall we flye or Stand? few Arms little ammunition, nothing to be done with the People here, I am really afraid that by Fire and Smoke (without the Use of Arms) the Indians will drive all before them. I beg your Advice what is best by the next opportunity. Any other News I get, whilst I stay I shall communicate. I would not hesitate a Moment were the Men come back whom I have sent out and were it not for one Reason more and that is that I find if I go many too many will follow. I am

York Wednesday Evening

Sir your most humble Servant
Geo: Stevenson

P.S. James Pattison tells me this Moment that two Men were sworn to day before P. Watson Esqr. that they counted 45 Indians passing thro' John Nogles Field which is about 9 Miles this side John Abbots in a valley South of the Road. G. S.

At a Council on Saturday 8th Novr. 1755

Present

The Governor

Mr. Peters
Mr. Lardner

Mr. Strettle
Mr. Mifflin

On Saturday the Sixteenth of August Scarrooyaday informed the Governor [illegible]

The Governor made Answer that their Visit was extreamly agree[illegible] and the [illegible]

Scarroyady. Andrew. Montour Scarroyada's Son and Jagrea came into Council And Conrad Weiser.

The Governor bid them Welcome, Was particularly oblig'd to them for this Visit and would be glad of their Advice in these dangerous Times.

Scarroyada Speaker

Since We saw one another last Affairs have Taken a great Turn We have now need to look about us in this dangerous time I came down on Purpose to Encourage both Governor Council Wise Men and Warriors, I have something to say to them of very great Consequence.

Gave a String

Scarroyady says Two Messengers came from Ohio to an Indian Town at the Big Island on Sasquehanna and seeing an English Man that by accident happened to be there They said Kill him No says the Indians of the Bigg Island we will not kill him nor suffer him to be killed we have lived in Peace many Years with the English here If you are so Blood thirsty go somewhere else for Blood Go where the Blood already Covers the ground We will have no Blood spilt here These two Messengers were Delawares and said farther they had something very extraordinary to say to them and then producing a Belt offer'd to deliver a Message from the Governor of Canada. But the Sasquehanna Indians Stopt them desiring they would defer their Speech till they could send for some of their Neighbours and when their Neighbours came they deliver'd the following Speech in the Name of Onontio.

Children I have often warn'd you to move from this River You are Children you must now go where I cannot hurt you. You are in my Way You must not stay any longer I will allow you to wear a little Hatchet that can kill a Bear or a Deer or an English Man A little Hatchet will serve for this purpose You wear Petticoats do not therefore concern your Selves in War nor enquire any thing about Warriors only move away from this River that you may not stand in my Way If you want Powder and Lead I have Enough at Ohio it lies there in heaps and you may have what Quantity you please This Speech was made to the Delawares and no Indians else

Gave a Belt of Wampum

The two Ohio Delawares proceeded and told the Indians round for all the Indians that were among the English If we find any of your Indians among the White People we will kill them I am going down with a large Body of Men against the English and if I find any of your Indians among them I will kill them I therefore give you this Warning and be sure mind what I say. The Two Messengers said further We the Delawares of Ohio Do proclaim War against the English We have been their Friends many Years but now taken up the Hatchet against

them

quiet

At a Council the fourteenth of November 1755.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor &c.ª

Benjamin Shoemaker	Thomas Cadwalader	Esquires
Joseph Turner	Richard Peters	
John Mifflin	Robert Strettell	

The Act intituled An Act for supplying the Western and Northern Indians, Friends & Allies of Great Britain with Goods at more easy rates; supporting an Agent or Agents among them and preventing Abuses in the Indian Trade. —

The Governor acquainted the Council that having recommended it to Mr. Peters and Mr. Weiser to confer with Scarroyady about what he may think necessary to be done at this time in order to bring back the revolted Indians, they reported that they had had several Conversations with Scarrooyady who appeared to them not to have lost his Affection for us tho' he spoke with great Contempt on our measures & that after long Consultations, he gave it as his Opinion that the best Intelligence should be obtained that could be got of the further designs of the Delawares, & that their Conduct should be immediately laid before the Six Nations and likewise before Sir William Johnson. Scarrooyady kindly undertook to go in Company with Mr. Montour quite up to the heads of the Sasquehannah in order to see and obtain full intelligence of what was doing among the Indians & then to proceed with all possible Expedition to the Six Nations and lay before them the Intelligence as well as the Conduct of the revolted Indians. The Governor said further that thereupon a set of Instructions had been drawn for Scarrooyady and approved by him which were read as follows.

Instructions of the Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esq.r Lieutenant Governor &c.ª —

To Scarroyady one of the Chiefs of the Oneido Nation and Mr. Andrew Montour of the County of Cumberland —

Our former Friends the Delawares residing at Ohio having fallen upon our back Inhabitants in a most cruel manner, without giving us the least notice of it, I have thought it necessary to send an account thereof with all possible Dispatch to the Six Nations, & as you have kindly offered to undertake this Journey by the way of Susquehannah. I instruct you to make all the haste possible & as you travel along apprize all our friendly Indians of this unexpected Treatment of the Ohio Delawares, and where you think it right apply on the part of this Government for Assistance; and that you may observe the Indian Ceremonies necessary on these Occasions, I have entrusted to your care a Quantity of Belts and Strings of Wampum confiding in your prudence and Judgment the Distribution of them. —

When you arrive among the Six Nations you are first to them the Condolence of this Government, for the Deaths of the several Warriors who joined Gen:l Shirley and General Johnson and fell in Battle; remove sorrow & grief from their hearts & wipe away the Tears from their Eyes. —

When this is done & they can see you and hear what you have to say, let them know that you are Messengers sent by the Government of Pennsylvania to the Six

United Nations on a very extraordinary matter that has happen'd there, and pray them to hearken to what you say and give it the strictest attention, and then make the following Speech in my name.

Brethren,

Your Cousins the Delawares who live at Ohio, whom we have hitherto looked upon as our own Children; whom we nursed & cherished in our Bosoms whom we have supported and with whom we have lived from our Infancy in perfect Love & Tenderneſs, have in a most cruel manner fallen upon & murder'd our Inhabitants people whose Houses were always open to them, and who had given them every kind thing they asked.

Brethren,

It was but the very last Year they gave us a kind and a friendly Meeting and at their own Instance the Treaties subsisting between us were mutually renewed; and when they parted with us, they gave us aſsurances of their continuing our Friends whilst the Waters should run down the Rivers. And on our part in token of the sincere Love we bore them, we then told them that the Times were Stormy, that they were much exposed, where they lived, to Danger, and were but few in number & consequently a very unequal Match for Onontio's people, & therefore in Tenderneſs to their Lives, & to prevent Evil befalling them, we desired them not to engage but to continue quiet till they should hear further from us. They acknowledged this as kind advice & thanked us and promised to do so and confirmed all by Belts of Wampum.

Brethren;

All this paſsed between us but the very last Year, and we never Dreamed that their Hearts could be poisoned by the Enemy, or the Flame of Love so soon extinguished in their Breasts; but the Truth is that without giving us any notice, these Indians have entered our Province in Arms and killed the poor People that were settled on our Borders; Innocent persons, who were resting peaceably in their beds and expecting no harm! — They struck the Tomahawk in their Brains. — Their Houses and Stacks of Corn & Hay they set on Fire. — Their Cattle stabbed & their Carcases they left weltering in their Blood exposed to the Wild Beasts, no friendly hand daring to put them under the Earth.

Our people lived without Arms, they thought there was no need of Arms, being secure of the Friendship of the Indians. The Warriors of all Nations paſsed and repaſsed and never hurt them but partook of what they had. — Your Cousins knew this, and yet they have not only fallen upon our Inhabitants and killed them, but have exercised greater Cruelties than the French Indians ever did in all the last War.

Brethren, of the Six united Nations,

These Delawares are your Cousins & under your Direction. We therefore acquaint You that they have thus treated us as Enemies and broke thro the Chain of Friendship: Let us know whether this was done with your knowledge and Consent, or by your order, & whether you will correct your Cousins and stop their proceedings.

We expect something will be done by you immediatly in virtue of the Treaties ſubsisting between us, what you do must be done quickly for they are even now destroying all before them.

Here Give a Black Belt.

After which Scarroyady with Henry Montour and Mr. Weiser came into Council and the Governor said,

Brethren,

You have been kind enough to undertake a Journey to the Six Nations You so well understand what you are going about yet tho' there was little occasion for it I have given you Instructions in writing with a paſs [which he delivered wth the Belt & ſtrings]

Brethren,

In behalf of this Government I thank you for undertaking this Journey Jones; and thank the Six Nations for the friendly Meſsage and hope it is sincere. The people have been sitting ever since they came to Town; But cannot agree with them. They want to break open the Key of the Proprietaries Chest, but they not having entrusted me with the Key I cannot permit them to break it open— But tho' we differ in other matters and dont at present agree about paying our own people, yet we all agree in this to preserve our Friendship with the them the Indians of Six Nations & to accommodate them with every thing neceſsary

As to building a Fort at Shamokin or other proper place, I doubt not we shall agree to do it, but till we are agreed on it I cannot give them poſitive Aſsurances of it, but shall as soon as we have agreed.

As to neceſsarys they are to apply to Mr. Weiser's where every thing will be lodged fitting for them.

In return for your friendly Offices in doing what we have & shall do, we desire they will keep a good Lookout and strike & oppose any that might attempt to hurt us and from time to time give us timely and early notice of such attempts.— That there are many idle people that make no distinction between Friends and Enemy Indians & therefore recommends it to them to keep together and avoid going into places where they may be in danger of being hurt.— That he expects them back with the Answer from the Six Nations. Yt they may apply to Mr. Weiser for Advice— —Wishes them a good Journey, & that his good wishes shall always be imployed for them.

The Governor laid before the Council a Letter from Mr. Croghan & another from Mr. Francis Campbell of Shippensburgh out of which he made the following Extracts which were ~~wrote~~ inclosed in the following Letter to General Johnson

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Francis Campbell of Shippensburg

"The Five Nations are determined to harraſs us. They are very industrious in getting Shawonese, Delawares & Cherokees and every other nation they can have acceſs to, in a scheme of giving all the adjacient Colonies such Diversion, in conjunction wth the French on the Ohio, or rather at their request, as will, if they are able to execute it, oblige us to come upon Terms with them, I mean the Indians; for they find before this Expedition is finished, if they are neuter, that the Lands on the Ohio will be in the hands of the English or French - and that now or never is this time to put in for a share. The Shawonese & Delawares have accepted the proposal and are the people that have committed the Cruelties on the Branches of Patowmac Cove and Conygocheege, and if they are permitted to distreſs as they intend to strike Lines with us and afterwards to fall foul of the French and drive them out from that part of the Country. The five Nations intend to be Neuter as to annoying our Inhabitants until they see what ſucceſs their Allies have. I fear next Spring we shall have a melancholly time.

A Letter from Gov:r Morris to Gen:l Johnson

Sir, I have the Honour to Congratulate you on the Succeſs of his Majesty's Arms under your Command. I take part in the Glory you have acquired, & now the Campaign is brought to a Close. I hope you will enjoy Ease & Leisure enough to give you an Opportunity of perfectly re-establishing your health.

The unhappy defeat of Gen:l Braddock has brought an Indian War upon this & the neighbouring Provinces, & from a Quarter where it was least expected, I mean the Delawares and Shawonese from whom we thought there was no danger, as they had the very last Year given us aſsurances of their continuing Quiet and taking part with us when we should ask them to do so, and they made the same promise to the Six Nations, so that we depended on them, not only to remain neuter, but to prevent other Indians from joining the French. But to our great surprize they have, in breach of their Treaties, & in Defiance of the Six Nations, to whom they are subject, fallen upon our back Inhabitants, and exercised on their persons the most shocking Barbarities, killing their Cattle and burning their Houses & destroying all before them. You cannot conceive what a vast Tract of Country has been depopulated by these mercileſs Savages; I aſsure you that all the Families from Augusta County in Virginia to the River Delaware have been obliged to quit their Plantations on the North side of that Chain of Hills which is called the endleſs Mountains, that take their Rise in New England, and that the Indians are expected to continue their Ravages into the Governments of New York and New Jersey.

As I know not the State of the Six Nations, nor where an Application can be best made to them; I must take the Freedom to Desire on the part of this Government that you would be pleased to send a Meſsage to the Six Nations to inform them of this Defection of the Delawares and Shawonese both from us & them, with all its horrid Circumstances; and aſsure them, that it is without the least Provocation from us, but that as they say themselves, it is to shew the Six Nations, that they are no longer Women, by which they mean no longer under their Subjection, they have the further Imprudence to say, they will come & attack such of the Six Nations as have taken up the Hatchet against the French. It will therefore be right to warn the Six Nation in your Meſsage, not only against any attempts that may be made on their Castles, but to require them to send Meſsengers to all the Indians under their Dependance, not to aſsist or join the French, or their Indians, but to take up the Hatchet & aſsist the English, and to let them know that if they go out a fighting against the English the Six Nations will consider them as Enemies & treat them as such.

You will see by the enclosed Papers that these French Shawonese and Delawares have offered the French Hatchet to the Sasquehannah Indians, but they have refused to take it, and have sent a Meſsage to this Government that they have done so, & will fight with us if we will support them and they shall be ordered to does by the Six Nations. Be pleased therefore in your Meſsage to inform the six Nations of this, and desire they will send a particular Meſsage to these Sasquehannah Indians commanding them to aſsist the English against the French.

I intend to build a Fort at Shamokin this Winter, of which be pleased likewise to acquaint the Six Nations & I doubt not they will approve this measure as absolutely neceſsary to protect the Indians for the common Security of them and us

I have enclosed you the minutes of Council containing what paſsed between this Government & Scarroyady, & likewise some secret Intelligence, which you will make your own use of, concealing the name of the author, I am

Sir,
Your most Obedient
humble Servant
Robert H. Morris

To Genl. Johnson

Philada. 15th Novemr. 1755.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Monday the 17th Novr. 1755

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor &ca.

Robert Strettel — Benjamin Shoemaker
Joseph Turner — Richard Peters
Lynford Lardner — John Mifflin
Benjamin Chew
} Esquires

On reading and reconsidering the Bill entituled an Act for striking £60,000 and sinking it by a Tax all the Council present unanimously agree to the following Amendments, which with the Bill & following Meſsage were sent to the House by the Secretary

Amendments to the Bill intituled An Act for striking £60,000 &ca.

1st) page 1st line 4. Dele the word [not] and insert [only]
2d) page 26.... from the word [And] in the 10th line. Dele all the rest of that
& 27 page and down to the word [Act] in the 10 line of the 27 page both inclusive
3d) page 19 line 7 _ Dele [Isaac Norris] and insert [James Hamilton Isaac Norris
& 8 -- Benjamin Chew] striking out [James Hamilton] in the 8 line.
4th) lines 9 & 10. Dele [John Hughes]
5th) line 14 - After the word [being] add [and not otherwise].

6th)

his Hands are still weak or unable he ought only to blame himself or those who have tied him.

"If the Governor proceeds on his Journey and takes a Quorum of his Council with him, we hope since he retains our Bill, that it will be seriously and duly considered by them, & that the same regard for the publick welfare which induced them unanimously to advise his intended Journey will induce them as unanimously to advise his assent. We agree, therefore, to his keeping the Bill, earnestly requesting he would reconsider it attentively, and shall be ready at any time to meet him for the purpose of enacting it into a Law.

"Signed by order of the House.

"ISAAC NORRIS, Speaker.

"November 11th, 1755."

The Bill for striking the sum of £60,000 was read and compared Paragraph by Paragraph, but it growing late before proper Conclusions could be agreed upon, the Council adjourned to the Afternoon.

At a Council held on the 12th November, 1755, P. M.

PRESENT:

The Governor and the same Members as in the forenoon.

The proviso in the Governor's Commission prohibiting him from doing any Act to encumber the Proprietary Estate was read and considered, and the Governor declaring he did not think he had power to pass the Bill, he desired the Council would give him their advice upon the present state and Circumstances of the Province, assuring them he was ready to come into any measures on the present situation of Affairs consistent with his powers and the trust reposed in him.

The Council resumed the Consideration of the said Bill, and several matters, together with the state of the Province, and several matters were proposed, but nothing determined.

At a Council the fourteenth of November, 1755.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &ca.

Benjamin Shoemaker	Thomas Cadwalader,	Esquires.
Joseph Turner,	Richard Peters,	
John Mifflin,	Robert Strettell,	

The Act intituled "An Act for supplying the Western and

Northern Indians, Friends and Allies of Great Britain, with Goods at more easy rates, supporting an Agent or Agents among them, and preventing Abuses in the Indian Trade.

The Governor acquainted the Council, that having recommended it to Mr. Peters and Mr. Weiser to confer with Scarroyady about what he may think necessary to be done at this time in order to bring back the revolted Indians, they reported that they had had several Conversations with Scarroyady, who appeared to them not to have lost his Affection for us, tho' he spoke with great Contempt on our measures, & that after long Consultations he gave it as his Opinion that the best Intelligence should be obtained that could be got of the further Designs of the Delawares, and that their Conduct should be immediately laid before the Six Nations, and likewise before Sir William Johnson. Scarroyady kindly undertook to go in Company with Mr. Montour quite up to the heads of the Sasquehannah in order to see and obtain full Intelligence of what was doing among the Indians, & then to proceed with all possible Expedition to the Six Nations and lay before them the Intelligence as well as the Conduct of the revolted Indians. The Governor said further, that thereupon a set of Instructions had been drawn for Scarroyady and approved by him, which were read as follows:

"*Instructions of the Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &ca,*

"*To Scarroyady, one of the Chiefs of the Oneido Nation, and Mr. Andrew Montour, of the County of Cnmberland:*

"Our former Friends the Delawares residing at Ohio, having fallen upon our back Inhabitants in a most cruel manner without giving us the least notice of it, I have thought it necessary to send an account thereof with all possible Dispatch to the Six Nations, & as you have kindly offered to undertake this Journey by the way of Sasquehanna, I instruct you to make all the haste possible, & as you travel along apprize all our friendly Indians of this unexpected Treatment of the Ohio Delawares, and where you think it right apply on the part of this Government for Assistance; and that you may observe the Indian Ceremonies necessary on these Occasions, I have entrusted to your care a Quantity of Belts and Strings of Wampum, confiding in your prudence and Judgment the Distribution of them.

"When you arrive among the Six Nations, you are first to tell them the Condolences of this Government for the Deaths of the several Warriors who joined General Shirley and General Johnson and fell in Battle. Remove sorrow & grief from their hearts, & wipe away the Tears from their Eyes.

"When this is done they can see you and hear what you have to say. Let them know that you are Messengers sent by the Government of Pennsylvania to the Six United Nations on a very extraordinary matter that has happened there, and pray them to hearken to what you say and give it the strictest attention, and then make the following Speech in my name:

"Brethren:

"Your Cousins the Delawares, who live at Ohio, whom we have hitherto looked upon as our own Children, whom we nursed and cherished in our Bosoms, whom we have supported, and with whom we have lived from our Infancy in perfect Love & Tenderness, have in a most cruel manner fallen upon & murdered our Inhabitants, People whose Houses were always open to them, and who had given them every kind thing they asked.

"Brethren:

"It was but the very last Year they gave us a kind and a friendly Meeting, and at their own Instance the Treaties subsisting between us were mutually renewed; and when they parted with us they gave us assurances of their continuing our Friends whilst the Waters should run down the Rivers. And on our part, in token of the sincere Love we bore them, we then told them that the Times were Stormy, that they were much exposed where they lived to Danger, and were but few in number, & consequently a very unequal Match for Onontio's People; & therefore in Tenderness to their Lives, & to prevent Evil befalling them, we desired them not to engage but to continue quiet till they should hear further from us. They acknowledged this as kind advice & thanked us, & promised to do so, and confirmed all by Belts of Wampum.

"Brethren:

"All this passed between us but the very last Year, and we never dreamed that their Hearts could be poisoned by the Enemy, or the Flame of Love so soon extinguished in their Breasts; but the Truth is, that without giving us any notice these Indians have entered our Province in Arms and killed the poor People that were settled on our Borders. Innocent Persons who were resting Peaceably in their beds and expecting no harm! they struck the Tomahawk in their Brains; Their Houses and Stacks of Corn & Hay were set on Fire; Their Cattle stabbed and their Carcases they left weltering in their Blood exposed to The Wild Beasts—no friendly hand daring to put them under the earth.

"Our People lived without arms—they thought there was no need of Arms, being secure of the Friendship of the Indians. The Warriors of all Nations passed and re-passed and never hurt them, but partook of what they had. Your Cousins knew this, and yet they have not only fallen upon our Inhabitants and killed them, but have exercised greater Cruelties than the French Indians ever did in all the last War.

"Brethren of the Six United Nations:

"These Delawares are your Cousins & under your Direction.

We therefore acquaint You that they have thus treated us as Enemies and broke thro' the Chain of Friendship. Let us know whether this was done with your knowledge and Consent or by your order, & whether you will correct your Cousins and stop their Proceedings.

"We expect something will be done by you immediately in virtue of the Treaties subsisting between us. What you do must be done quickly for they are even now destroying all before them."

Here he gave a Black Belt.

After which Scarrooyady with Henry Montour and Mr. Weiser came into Council, and the Governor said:

"Brethren:

"You have been kind enough to undertake a Journey to the Six Nations. You so well understand what you are going about yet tho' there was little occasion for it. I have given you Instructions in writing with a pass [which he delivered w^{th.} the Belt & strings].

"Brethren:

"In behalf of this Government I thank you for undertaking this Journey to us, and thank the Six Nations for the friendly Message, and hope it is sincere. The People have been sitting ever since they came to Town, But cannot agree with them. They want to break open the Key of the Proprietaries Chest, but they not having entrusted me with the Key I cannot permit them to break it open. But tho' we differ in other matters, and don't at present agree about paying our own people, yet we all agree in this to preserve our Friendship with them the Indians of Six Nations, & to accommodate them with every thing necessary.

"As to building a Fort at Shamokin or other proper place I doubt not we shall agree to do it, but till we are agreed on it I cannot give them positive Assurances of it, but shall as soon as we have agreed.

"As to necessarys, they are to apply to Mr. Weiser's, where every thing will be lodged fitting for them.

"In return for your friendly Offices in doing what we have & shall do, we desire they will keep a good Look-out and strike & oppose any that might attempt to hurt us, and from time to time give us timely and early notice of such attempts; That there are many idle people that make no Distinction between Friends and Enemy Indians, & therefore recommends it to them to keep together and avoid going into places where they may be in danger of being hurt; That he expected them back with the Answer from the Six Nations, Y^{t.} they may apply to Mr. Weiser for Advice. ——— Wishes them a good Journey, & that his good wishes shall always be imployed for them."

The Governor laid before the Council a Letter from Mr. Croghan & another from Mr. Francis Campbell, of Shippensburgh, out of which he made the following Extracts, which were inclosed in the following Letter to General Johnson:

Extract of a Letter from Mr. Francis Campbell, of Shippensburg.

"The Five Nations are determined to harrass us. They are very industrious in getting Shawanese, Delawares, & Cherokees, and every other nation they can have access to, in a scheme of giving all the adjacient Colonies such Diversion, in conjunction w^th. the French on the Ohio, or rather at their request, as will if they are able to execute it oblige us to come upon Terms with them. I mean the Indians, for they find before this Expedition is finished if they are neuter that the Lands on the Ohio will be in the hands of the English or French, and that now or never is their time to put in for a share. The Shawonese and Delawares have accepted the proposal, and are the People that have committed the Cruelties on the Branches of Patowmec Cove and Conegocheege, and if they are permitted to distress as they intend to strike Lines with us, and afterwards to fall foul of the French and drive them out from that part of the Country. The Five Nations intend to be Neuter as to annoying our Inhabitants until they see what success their Allies have. I fear next Spring we shall have a melanchölly time."

—

A Letter from Gov^r. Morris to Gen^l. Johnson.

"Sir:

"I have the Honour to Congratulate you on the Success of his Majesty's Arms under your Command. I take part in the Glory you have acquired, and now the Campaign is brought to a close I hope you will enjoy Ease & Leisure enough to give you an Opportunity of perfectly re-establishing Your health.

"The unhappy defeat of Gen^l. Braddock has brought an Indian War upon this and the neighbouring Provinces, and from a Quarter where it was least expected, I mean the Delawares and Shawanese, from whom we thought there was no danger, as they had the very last Year given us assurances of their continuing Quiet and taking part with us when we should ask them to do so; and they made the same promise to the Six Nations, so that we depended on them not only to remain neuter but to prevent other Indians from joining the French. But to our great surprize they have in breach of their Treaties & in Defiance of the Six Nations, to whom they are subjects, fallen upon our back Inhabitants and exercised on their persons the most shocking Barbarities, killing their Cattle and burning their Houses, and destroying all before them. You cannot conceive what a vast Tract of Country has been depopulated by these merciless Savages. I assure you that all the Families from Augusta County in Virginia to the River Delaware have been obliged to quit their Plantations on the North side of that Chain of Hills which is called the endless Mountains, that take their Rise in New England, and that the Indians are expected to Continue their Ravages into the Governments of New York and New Jersey.

"As I know not the State of the Six Nations, nor where an Application can be best made to them, I must take the Freedom to desire on the part of this Government that you would be pleased to send a Message to the Six Nations to inform them of this Defection of the Delawares and Shawonese both from us & them, with all its horrid Circumstances, and assure them that is it without the least Provocation from us, but that as they say themselves it is to shew the Six Nations that they are no longer Women, by which they mean no longer under their Subjection; they have the further Imprudence to say they will come & attack such of the Six Nations as have taken up the Hatchet against the French. It will, therefore, be right to warn the Six Nations in your Message not only against any attempts that may be made on their Castles, but to require them to send Messengers to all the Indians under their Dependance not to assist or join the French or their Indians, but to take up the Hatchet & assist the English, and to let them know that if they go out a fighting against the English the Six Nations will consider them as Enemies & treat them as such.

"You will see by the enclosed Papers that these French Shawonese and Delawares have offered the French Hatchet to the Sasquehannah Indians but they have refused to take it, and have sent a Message to this Government that they have done so, & will fight with us if we will support them, and they shall be ordered to do so by the Six Nations. Be pleased, therefore, in your Message to inform the Six Nations of this, and desire they will send a particular Message to these Sasquehannah Indians, commanding them to assist the English against the French.

"I intend to build a Fort at Shamokin this Winter, of which be pleased likewise to acquaint the Six Nations, & I doubt not they will approve this measure as absolutely necessary to protect the Indians for the common Security of them and us.

"I have enclosed you the minutes of Council containing what passed between this Government & Scarrooyady, & likewise some secret Intelligence, which you will make your own use of, concealing the name of the Author.

"I am, Sir, Your most obedient humble Servant,

"ROBERT H. MORRIS.

"To Gen$^{l.}$ JOHNSON.

"Philada., 15th Novembr., 1755."

Q - What further Conversation had You with the Indians there?

A - Jonathan an Indian told us that Packshanes and Abraham Jonª ~~his~~ Father and some others were sent for to Mamshin, and when they came there they found that ~~a Treaty was~~ the Indians there were convened to a Treaty. where a Mohawk French Indian presenting a wampum belt to the Indians addressed the other Indians in these Terms. Your Grandfather sends You Word, that I intend to come down with 1000 Men with me, but do not You be afraid, for I do not design to hurt You, but only the white People like my selfe but I would let You know that I have a broad sharp Hatchet, therefore do You stand off and come not near lest you get hurt, for my Hatchet is very broad and sharp. ~~And gave them a String of Wampum~~. To whom the ~~abovesaid~~ Indians ~~Chief Packshanes~~ made Answer, if that is your Intention, then come not thro' our Land.

They told us further that they were afraid of the English for they had been told that they intended to come to Wayoming and bind the Indians and carry them to Philª and if any resisted they would cut his Head off, and asked us if We knew any Thing of it. We answered, that it is true that the white People are very much disturbed, because that so many of them have been murthered about the Susquehanna, and a white Man who was ~~shot~~ fled along wounded made his Escape and reported that it was a Delaware who shot Him, and that the white People did not know how to understand the Matter, whether the Murther was committed by our Indians or by French Indians or Ste ~~answered~~ or who else had done it. Packshanes said that He could answer for it that not one of his Wayoming Indians had any Hand in it.* We told Him that We tho.t it would be well if He sent Word to the Governour of it & that He might be informed of their Mind, and prevent any Mis-understanding. To which Packshanes & Abraham answered, that We have done 2 Days ago by a Strings of Wampum and a Message to the Governour by Mr. Charles Brodhead, that as the Governour told us at a Treaty last Spring, that We the Indians of Wayoming should sit still and be quiet, and that We have our Word and a string of Wampum to the same Purpose from Genl. Johnson, and ~~that~~ We the Indians at Wayoming in Consequence of the Govr. & Johnson's Word do sit still and are quiet.

* but it may be that the Delawares, Shawanese & other Indians over the Allegheny Mountains and Ohio may have been ~~encouraged~~ prevailed on by the French to do this Mischief.

but still they are in fear, and know not what to do, for there com
no Traders now amongst them, and they are afraid to go among
the white Peoples and their Ammunition is spent, if they sh
have Occasion to defend themselves, they would be in the great
distress. And they ask'd us if they Br.n at Bethlehem o
Gnadenhütt had powder and lead to Sell, we Answered n

Jonathan also inform'd us that Packshanos kept very good Ord
among his Indians at Wyoming, and that no One goes out
a Hunting without first acquainting Him, when, and when
He intends to go, and when He'l return, that so upon any
Occasion the Indians may very soon be call'd together.

Taken before me on their Solemn Affirmatio
the 15th Nov. 1755

Timo Horsfield

Shawanes Chief at Wyoming

The 22d. Day of November 1755. David Zeisberger upon his solemn Affirmation Declareth and saith that Indian Jonathan the Day before Yesterday came from Wyoming on Susquahanah River to Gnadenhütten and reported that the Indians living on the River between Wyoming and Neskopeeky had observed & followed the Tracts of a considerable Number of Indians in their Neighbourhood until they could discern by their Tracts that they had divided themselves and went several Ways in small Companies. Whereupon the Indians met together in Council to consider what was fit for them to do upon the Occasion. That ye. Result of their Council was that Jonathan should come down to Gnaden-hütten and see if the Indians could safely come down amongst the white People, who they were afraid would suspect them for Enemies if they should be seen several together. And if they found they might safely come they would send 5 or 6 of their Chiefs to the Govr. to inform him of what had passed and of their Fidelity to the English. That Jonathan yesterday returned back to Wyoming and promised to be back again in 6 Days to be assured if the Indians would be safely conducted to Philada. And this Affirmt. further saith that the said Jonathan said, that the Indians at Susquahanah were all of Opinion that those Indians which they tract were Enemies and that they would soon attack the English Settlements upon the Branches of Delaware River. And this Affirmt. saith that last Wednesday two strange Indian Men were seen at the House of George Custar, by two Indian Women who lived at Gnadenhutten and were then pulling turnips for the said Geo. Custar, Which two strange Indian Men when they left the House of ye. sd. Custar came to the two Women and told them not to stay there for that the French Indians were coming with Intent to destroy the English As the Women declared when they returned Home Whereupon many of the Indians at Gnadenhutten left & hid themselves in the Bushes And further this Afft. saith not

David Zeisberger

Affd. ye. Day & Year
abovd. before us

Wm. Parsons
James Martin }

Copy of David Longan
[illegible]
Deposition

Victualling them and their Guards; And Mr. Judah Toulke is recommended by the Mayor as a fit Person for that service, and a Warrant was issued to him for that purpose.

At a Council held at Philada., the 22nd of November, 1755.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor, &ca.

Robert Strettel,	Benjamin Chew,	Esquires.
Lynford Lardner,	Richard Peters,	

A Message from the House delivered the 19th Inst. was read in these words:

"May it please the Governor:

"Our Treasury is quite exhausted by the heavy expences lately incurr'd, and we know of no way of raising Money so expeditious as that proposed by the Bill now before the Governor. It is true the Money intended to be struck may not be Current before the 31st of December; but as that is not more than six weeks, there is no Doubt but that Labour, Service, and any thing else that Money can purchase among us may be had on Credit for so short a time if the Bill passes; and in consideration of the necessity of 'affording timely assistance to the distressed Inhabitants in the Back Counties,' we sincerely hope and once more earnestly entreat that the Governor will no longer refuse or delay his assent to it.

"The other part of the Governor's Message we have now under our serious Consideration, and as soon as we come to any resolution thereon, shall immediately communicate the same to the Governor.

"Signed by Order of the House.

"ISAAC NORRIS, Speaker.

"Philada., Novr. 19th, 1755."

The Governor having framed a Message to the House respecting the Bill for granting £60,000 to the King's use, agreeable to the Council's sentiments at their last meeting, and Extracts having been made out of the Council Books to shew that Money Bills have always been amended by the Governor & Council, the same were read and approved, and sent to the House:

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

"Gentlemen:

"I am no less astonished than grieved to find by your Message of the eighteenth Instant, that altho' I have even ventured to exceed what I judged to be the Powers of my Commission, in order, if possible, to accommodate our unhappy Differences and afford the necessary Succor to our bleeding Country, yet still you adhere to your Bill & refuse to agree to the reasonable proposal I made of submitting to his Majesty the present dispute between us relating to the Proprietary Tax. My astonishment is still increased to find that your best argument for such an obstinate refusal is founded on a new and lofty claim of Priviledge never heard of in this Province till towards the Close of Mr. Hamilton's Administration and the beginning of the late French encroachments upon this Province. At that time the Assembly being pressed upon the subject of Defence first introduced, and have since occasionally continued this Claim of having their Money Bills passed as tendered, without any Amendments. And this appears to be done with a double view, to wit, either wholly to avoid giving Money for Warlike purposes, or by means of the Country's distress, to arrogate Powers which Assemblies here never were, and from the nature of our Constitution, never ought to be in possession of.

"In my Message of the 24th of September, I insisted that this Claim was neither warranted by Charter nor yet by usage; and it appears from the Minute of Council (some Extracts of which I have sent you) that the Governor's right of Amending Money Bills was never questioned by your Predecessors in Assembly; And yet, Gentlemen, they were men whose Probity and Fortune were at least equal to yours, and many of them were singularly remarkable for their superior Knowledge of the Constitution of their Country as well as an inviolable attachment to its true Interests.

"I have given this matter the Precedence, tho' it is in the last part of your Message, that it may appear on how slight a Claim you have founded your refusal to pass a Bill so very important at this Juncture. Your other Arguments relate chiefly to the Form of the proposed Amendments, to which I shall reply but briefly, as you seem determined against all Amendments that come from me, however reasonable and necessary they may otherwise be.

"You say there is no necessity in the method proposed, that the Crown should assent to some parts of the Act and reject others. It is not my business to determine what the Crown may account necessary in any of its Actions; but this I know, that is, is the established mode either to approve or reject the whole of any Law; And I presume every Legislative Body in these Colonies expect to have their Acts wholly rejected or wholly approved. You ought, therefore, previous to your risking the rejection of so important an Act on account of the Proprietary Exemption, to shew more than a bare probability that the Crown will adopt this unprecedented method by which a whole Law may be first approved, then a part of it suspended from taking effect and yet the whole is to remain all the while compleat and in Force. And all this you say by a very nice distinction is to be done by means of some wonderous Virtue of the Law itself, and in execution of the Law, and yet that it is to Cost two distinct Acts of the Crown to do it.

"But was I to enquire into the reasons of this indirect and perplexed method, scarce any other it should seem to me can be assigned, but that it is your Sovereign pleasure to have it so, unless you are diffident of the Justice of your Cause and dare not trust it on its own Bottom, perhaps vainly imagining that if both the Taxes are blended together you have a better chance of being gratified in your ambitious view of getting your Chief Governor and his Estate subject to your Mercy than if the Bills are separated, in which case you probably fear that the Merits of the Cause alone might determine it against you.

"For my part, I have such an implicit Confidence in the Royal Justice, that I am certain if the Proprietary Claim to an Exemption be just in itself, the present or any other Law by which they are taxed would be rejected in the Common Method, although the Crown should be thereby for a time deprived of the greatest sums. Wherefore as I foresaw the manifest inconveniences that might ensue from a total rejection of the present Law, I proposed a separation of the two parts of the Bill by which method the present Exigencies of the Province would be supplied whatever might be the Royal Determination with regard to the Proprietary Exemption.

"But you tell me in the next place that my proposal also implies a contradiction, namely: to pass one Bill declaring positively that the Proprietary Estate shall not be taxed and another expressly to Tax it; and the good-natured Construction you put upon this is that I thereby aimed to secure an infallible Exemption of the Proprietaries from Taxation by leading you into an absurdity in the mode of taxing them. This I shall leave among the rest of your groundless Charges against me, and observe that the Bill as amended by me only excepts the Proprietary Estate in the Taxes to be laid by that Bill, but no where that I can find declares either positively or otherwise that it shall not be taxed by another Bill, so that the absurdity you mention does not appear to me. However, if what you are pleased to call the diametrical Contradiction of the two proposed Bills be really any objection with you, I shall very readily agree to one Amendment more, which will perfectly reconcile them by the addition of a very few Words to the Exemption Clause in the first Bill as follows: [The Estates of the Honourable Thomas Penn and Richard Penn, Esquires, excepted, which shall be taxed in the manner directed by a particular Law passed (or to be passed) for that purpose]. Thus both Bills will declare positively that the Proprietaries are to be taxed if his Majesty shall so think fit.

"Your Extracts from the votes of the House of Commons prove nothing to the purpose for which you quote them; they only shew what nobody denies, that by the constitution of England the Commons have long claimed the Priviledge of having their Supply Bills passed or rejected without Amendments, but are by no means applicable to the Circumstances of this Province.

"The Constitution of England is of long standing, founded upon antient usage & ripened by time & the wisdom of Ages to its present perfection. There the King, Lords and Commons make up the Supreme Power, to each of which the Constitution has assigned particular & peculiar prerogatives, Rights, & Privileges, in order to keep up a proper Ballance and make them (what for the benefit of the Nation they ought to be) a check upon each other.

"The Constitution of this Province is founded upon certain Royal & Proprietary Charters, being subordinate, and no way similar to that of England, nor composed of the like constituent parts. Here the whole power is lodged in the Governor & Assembly, who have all along exercised equal Legislative powers, each of them having a right to propose Laws and to amend what is proposed by the other.

"Till, therefore, you can shew that the Constitution of this Province is similar to that of England, composed of the like parts, and that each of them have the like or similar powers and privileges, you can found no claim upon the usage of Parliament for having your Money Bills passed without the Governor's Amendments, and therefore your Extracts from the Votes of the House of Commons were a very needless addition to your Message.

"You mention twenty Amendments offered by me to the Bill of last Assembly, & that you being a new body [composed almost wholly of the same Members], admitted every one of them that was of any Consequence into the present Bill, excepting that of exempting the Proprietary Estate. But this one Amendment was of so material Consequence that your refusal to admit of it made the proposal of a separate Bill a necessary Expedient, and obliged me to make other Amendments, so that you had no reason for bursting out into such a lofty strain of Rhetoric, telling me that now I am for amending my own Amendments, altering my own Alterations, and adding to my own Additions; for had you agreed to my first Amendments, Alterations, and Additions, any future ones would have been needless.

"You speak of many Bills proposed in vain by you for the relief of your distressed Country. 'Tis true you have in all proposed to me five Money Bills, three of them rejected because contrary to Royal Instructions. The other two were rejected on account of the unjust method proposed for taxing the Proprietary Estate. If you are disposed to relieve your Country, you have many other ways of granting Money to which I shall have no objection.

"In this as well as in some other Messages, you affect to treat me as a Stranger, and tell me that it is at least probable you are more deeply concerned for the Distresses of this Country than I am, because most of you are natives of it and have your Estates in it. I am surprized, Gentlemen, that you do not blush to have recourse to such weak and fallacious reasoning. Altho' I was not born within the Limits of this Province, I was born in its Neighbourhood. Nay, the Chief part of my Estate lies much nearer to this City than the Estates of some of you who sit in Assembly, and when your Estates are in danger I can by no means think mine safe. And here I would observe, that if the Consideration of being bred up among You and possessing large property in the Province could have secured your good Treatment of any Governor, my immediate Predecessor had the fairest Claim to such Treatment, & would have been exempted from those Manifold abuses which it has been his Lot as well as mine to receive at your hands. But I conceive, Gentlemen, that our Actions, not the place of our Estates or Nativity, are the best Test of our Affection for this Country. You will suffer me, therefore, briefly to review your Conduct and mine, and to leave them both to speak for themselves.

"And here was I inclined to go beyond my own times; I might begin with remind^g. You how contemptuously you treated the Proprietary offer of Four hundred Pounds for erecting a place of Strength on the Ohio, together with an offer of one hundred Pounds per annum towards its support, which offers were made at a time when your Concurrence would probably have prevented many of the Calamities we now groan under.

"I might also observe, that when Mr. Hamilton first called upon you persuant to his Majesty's orders, to grant such Supplies as would enable him to draw forth the Strength of the Province & to repel Force by Force, you would not admit that the French Encroachments and Fortifications on the Ohio were within our Limits, or his Majesty's Dominions, thereby seeking an excuse to avoid doing what was required of you; And when after the loss of much time you thought fit to drop this dispute, you then entered upon a fresh one concerning the Legality of Royal Instructions in order still to gain more time & avoid doing what you judged inconsistent with your Principles; nevertheless, it is clear, that if you had complied with Mr. Hamilton's request, and given Seasonably what Money the excise could raise in the Term he proposed, the French might have been prevented from strengthening themselves in their present unwarrantable Encroachments.

"On my accession to the Government you began upon the same Dispute and delay; but as I am informed that there was a full and strong Representation, both of your Conduct & mine so far as related to the Disputes in the beginning of my Administration, laid before his Majesty in a Report of the Lords Commissioners of Trade, upon your Address concerning Instructions, I shall go no farther back than December last.

"On the 19th of that Month I communicated to you a letter from Sir Thomas Robinson, notifying his Majesty's intentions of employing four Regiments for the defence & Security of these Colonies to be raised and augmented in America, & requiring a sum of Money towards a general Fund, and to have Three thousand men in readiness with a proper quantity of Provisions &c.. the whole to be under the direction of a General Officer of Character, who was to be sent as Commander-in-Chief of all his Majesty's Forces in these parts, but you did not think fit to raise a single man, or give one farthing of Money in Compliance with this request; I did also at the same time recommend it to you, to prepare a Law for regulating the Wages to be paid by such Tradesmen, Horses & Carriages, as it might be necessary to impress into his Majesty's Service; To this you replied 'That you could not presume the Military Officers would, or ought to have any Power of impressing Tradesmen within this Province, & that the other parts of my Message might remain under Consideration without any considerable Inconvenience.'

"As soon as the General arrived I again recommended it to you to make an immediate Provision for raising the men & supplying the Money and other necessaries expected from this Province, and did throughout the whole Summer from time to time press you to grant your aid & assistance to the Expedition then on Foot, but you had one general answer for all, namely, That if some Bill which you had always ready to offer for striking a sum of money for the King's Use should once be passed it would answer all the purposes required of you, and yet every one of those Bills were all the while liable to one & the same objection, on the footing of the Royal Instructions. And, besides this, you never took the least notice of the Demand for a supply of men, which from this populous Province was at least as material an Article as Money.

"At last, upon the Defeat of his Majesty's Forces for want of that timely support & assistance which it was in the Power of this Province to have afforded, I laid before you in the strongest Terms the Dangers to which this Country stood exposed, and called upon you to put it into a posture of Defence that the People might be secured against the Invasions naturally to be expected in consequence of that defeat, but all this was to no purpose. However, having been informed of the Report of the Lords of Trade against your address, and that your conduct was generally condemned in England, you thought fit to drop the old dispute concerning Instructions and to start a new one about taxing the Proprietary Estate, which you very well knew I had no power by my Commission to do, Besides, as the Proprietaries were absent and this your extraordinary Claim related to a matter of Property, and was contrary to a Law in Force, you could not imagine that it would be easily given up or speedily determined, and, therefore, you could propose nothing by it, but, as usual, to evade the point of raising an armed Force & granting the necessary supplies; And now, when in Consideration of the Distresses of this unhappy Country I have consented even to exceed the powers of my Commission in order to lay that dispute before his Majesty by a separate Bill for that particular purpose, you start a new Claim unknown to former Assemblies of having your Bills, giving Money, passed without Amendments, and upon no better Foundation than this imagined privilege you refuse the necessary Assistance to your bleeding Country. But, Gentleman, I must tell you that I cannot consistent with my Duty or the Trust reposed in me, recede from my Amendments to that your Bill; And here give me leave to express my Satisfaction at your intended Complaint against me, and to assure you that nothing gives me greater pleasure than the hopes of having my Conduct and yours laid before the Crown, where I hope they will both undergo the strictest Examination, and as I expec no favour from you, so I am not afraid of the utmost efforts of your malice, being conscious to myself that I have done nothing to the prejudice of the people committed to my Care, or neglected any thing in my power that could tend to their security or lasting happiness.

" Upon the whole it appears clear to me that you never intended that any of your Bills should pass for raising Money to defend the Province, and this seems now to be placed beyond all dispute, since those People under whose Influence you are chiefly known to be are said to have declared publickly to you that they would sooner suffer than pay towards such purposes.

" However, I shall put one proof more, both of your sincerity & mine in our professions of regard for the publick, by offering to agree to any Bill in the present Exigency which it is consistent with my Duty to pass, lest, before our present Disputes can be brought to an issue, we should neither have a privilege to dispute about nor a Country to dispute in.

"ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS.

"Philadelphia, Novr. 22nd, 1755."

Extracts from the Minutes of Council commencing from the Proprietary William Penn, Esqr., his leaving the Province in 1701.

" On the old Proprietary's Departure from the Province in 1701 Andrew Hamilton, Esqr., was appointed Lieutenant Governor,* but by reason of the unsettled state of the Province, and the Assemblies differing with him chiefly on account of his pressing them to make a Militia Law, & to provide for the Defence of the Province, no Laws passed in his time, and he dying in March, 1703, the Council acted till Governor Evans' Appointment to the Goverment in February, 1703–4.

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* Extracts from the Minutes of Council, 1701.

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In Governor Evans' Time.

1705, Decemb^{r.} 27th. A Bill for granting a Supply for Support of Government read in Council and agreed to with some Amendment.

January 12th. An Amendment insisted on by the Governor to the Bill entituled "An Act for a raising a Supply of Two-pence halfpenny Per Pound, and ten Shillings Per Head, viz^{t.}: That the Assembly should not have power to dispose of any part of the Money to be raised by that Act, without the Governor's Concurrence," and it was agreed by the House [all then present with their Speaker David Lloyd] "that the Assembly should have no power to dispose of any of the said Money but for discharging of Debts then incumbent on the Province, and for the necessary Charges of their own House, and that in all other Cases the Governor's Concurrence with the Assembly should be required," and the said Supply Bill was accordingly passed with the said Amendment.

NOTE.—Governor Evans, soon after passing this Law, likewise differing with his Assemblies on the disagreeable subjects of Defence, few or no Laws were passed in the remainder of his Time; and he growing extremely obnoxious to the Assembly they got him superseded, and he was succeeded by Colonel Gookin.

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In Governor Gookin's Time.

1709, July 29th. In a message from the Assembly to the Governor pressing him to pass twelve Bills which had been sent up to him for his Concurrence by that & former Assemblies, amongst which were some Bills for raising Monies by County Levies, Dutys, &^{c..} are these words, viz^{t.}: "Whereunto we earnestly desire thy Concurrence with what other reasonable Bills may be prepared by this Assembly, or otherwise be pleased to let us know thy objections to those Bills, and we shall readily agree to any reasonable Proposals of Amendments to them."

August 16th. In a Message from the Governor to the House, on his sending back the said Bills, to be new drawn by them, with some Amendments, is this Clause:

"The Governor is very desirous that a Bill of Fees, distinct from that of Courts may be immediately proceeded upon by a Committee as he before proposed, for he is of opinion with the Council, that it will be the safest method to bring each distinct matter into a separate Act, that in case one be rejected at home, the rest may not fall with it."

And accordingly a distinct Bill of Fees was prepared and Passed.

1710–11, Febry. 3d. Amendments proposed by the Governor in Council to the Bill for raising Monies by licensing Taverns allowed by the Assembly.

16–17 & 18. Amendments proposed by the Governor and Council to the following Bills, viz$^{t.}$: "An Act for raising a supply of two pence per Pound and eight Shillings Per Head;" "An Act for licensing Taverns;" "An Act for laying a Duty on Negroes, Wine, Rum, &$^{ca.}$," called the Impost Act, and "an Act for compelling the paying of all former Taxes allowed by the House & passed therewith."

1711, July 20th. Amendments proposed by the Governor and Council to the Bill entituled "An Act for raising of Two thousand Pounds to the Queen's use [for the Canada Expedition] by a Tax of 5½s. ℔ pound and twenty Shillings Per head;" one of which Amendment was, that the Monies should be paid by the Treasurer as the Governor should direct and appoint.

And the said Act was passed with the Governor's Amendments.

1712, May 27th. Amendments proposed by the Governor & Council to the Bill intituled "An Act for raising Money on the Inhabitants of the City of Philadelphia for the Publick use and benefit thereof;" Which passed the seventh of June after, with several other amended Bills for raising Monies by Duties, &$^{ca.}$

1714-15, Mar. 23. Impost Bill amended by the Governor.

1715 May 26th. A Bill for laying a Duty on Wine, Rum, &$^{ca.}$ A Bill for raising a Supply of one Penny Per Pound, and one Shilling Per head, & a Bill for laying a Duty on Negroes imported; all amended by the Governor, allowed by the House and passed.

In Governor Keith's Time.

1717, February 21st. Amendments proposed by the Governor and Council to several Bills, viz$^{t.}$: "An Act for laying a Duty on sundry Liquors retailed;" "An Act for laying a Duty on Wine, Rum, &$^{ca.}$, and Hops and Flax imported;" "An Act for continuing a Duty on Negroes," and "An Act for raising a Duty on Tonage of Ships."

N. B. In a message from the Assembly to the Governor relating to the Bills before they passed, is this expression, "That they expected the Governor to send for them, in order to pass such Bills as had already been subjected to the Governor's Amendments and were finished by the House."

1721, January 19th. Amendments by Governor and Council to two Bills, viz^{t}: "An Act for laying a Duty on Wine, Rum, &^{ca}." and "An Act for laying a Duty on Negroes, &^{ca}." & both passed so amended.

1722, May 3d. Amendments proposed by the Governor and Council to "An Act for imposing a Duty on Convicts, &^{ca}."

May 9th. And to the Supplementary Act for raising County Levies.

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In Governor Gordon's Time.

1729, May 10th. "An Act laying a Duty on Foreigners & Irish Servants;" Also "An Act for emitting Thirty thousand Pounds," both passed with the Governor's Amendments.

1730–31, February 4th. The Assembly agrees to the Governor's Amendments to the Re-Emitting Bill and for striking Forty thousand Pounds.

1731, January 20th. Clause in a Speech, or Answer of the Governor's to a Message from the Assembly on a proposed Amendment of the Governor's to a Bill for payment of Assemblymen's Wages, and providing a Fund for it.

The Governor answered "that as he conceived he had an undoubted right to offer Amendments & make Propositions on any Bill that should come before him, he had done so in the present Case."

1733, January 19th. Excise Bill passed with the Governor's Amendments. One of which was an alteration from Six-pence per Gallon to four pence; and another was to reduce the Time of the Continuance of the Act from Five to three Years.

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In Governor Thomas' Time.

1739, May 18th. A Money Bill, vizt.: "An Act for re-printing & re-emitting the Bills of Credit, & for striking Eleven thousand Pounds," passed with several amendments of the Governor's.

1740, May. In a dispute between the Governor & Assembly (Mr. Kinsey then Speaker) on the Bill for raising Money on the Inhabitants of the City, are these Expressions of the Assembly: "If the Bill abridges the Corporation in their Privileges or be deficient in the Powers of the Commissioners and Assessors, it may be amended by the Governor, & to which they would chearfully agree." And further, And the Governor's power of insisting on any Amendment "proposed by himself where he shall think it just is what we never contended against."

1744, May 26th. Governor's Amendment of Excise Bill, agreed to by the House & passed so Amended.

1745, May 3d. Money Bill, viz$^{t.}$: "An Act for re-emitting & continuing the Loan of the Bills of Credit," &$^{a.}$, Passed with Governor's Amendments.

1746, June 24th. Act for raising Five Thousand Pounds for his Majesty's use, Passed with the Governor's Amendments.

A Bill entituled "An Act for the better ordering and regulating such as are willing and desirous to be united for Military purposes within this Province" having been presented to the Governor on the twentieth instant, was read, and tho' it was manifestly inconsistent with an English Constitution and a direct violation of the rights of his Majesty, & only calculated to raise and foment differences, yet it was judged better to pass than reject it, as it might do some good for the present, & would let the Ministers at home see what sort of sentiments were adopted by the persons who had the lead of the people, And, therefore, the Bill was returned with a Message that the Governors would pass it, which is as follows:

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

"Gentlemen:

"I have considered your Bill for the better ordering and regulating such as are willing and desirous to be united for Military Purposes within this Province, and tho' there are many things in it of a very extraordinary nature, and I am convinced that it will never answer the purpose of defending this Province, even if it could be carried into Execution in any reasonable Time, which I am afraid it cannot, Yet to shew you that I am desirous of doing any thing that has even a Chance of contributing to the safety of the people and Province, I shall consent to your Bill in the shape you have sent it, as it would be entring into new Disputes should I amend it properly.

"ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS.

"Philad$^{a.}$, 22d Nov$^{r.}$, 1755."

Several Townships having formed themselves into Military Companies and chosen their Officers, Commissions issued according to their respective Petitions.

The Gentlemen appointed to enquire into the Transactions between the Proprietaries & the Delawares & Shawonese Indians, in order to see if any just cause of Disgust had at any time been given them, made their Report, which was read, approved, and sent to the House with the following Message:

To the Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania, & Counties of New Castle, Kent, & Sussex, upon Delaware:

"May it please the Governor:

"Your Honour and the Council having taken into Consideration the Message from the Assembly of the fifth Instant, wherein they 'request you would be pleased to inform them whether you know of any Disgust or Injury the Delawares or Shawonese have ever received from this Province, and by what means their affections can be so alienated as to take up the Hatchet against us,' and also their other Message of the Eighteenth instant on the same subject, wherein they 'enquire particularly whether the Chiefs of the Shawonese did not in 1753 complain to this Government that satisfaction had not been made to them by the Proprietaries for a large Tract of Land, Part of which was surveyed into the Proprietary Manor on Conedogwainet, and whether they were not then promised that application should be immediately made to the Proprietaries in their behalf to obtain the Satisfaction they desired, and whether such application has been made & the satisfaction obtained and given.' And it being by order of Council of the 19th day of November instant referred to us as a Committee of the said Council to examine all proper persons, and to inspect the Council Books, Indian Treaties, & other Books and Papers that could furnish us with any Lights into the subject matter of the said Messages, and to make our Report thereon: We now Report that we have perused the printed Indian Treaty held by Richard Peters, Isaac Norris, & Benjamin Franklin, Esquires, by special Commission from this Government, with the said Delaware and Shawonese Indians, &ca. at Carlisle, in October, 1753, which we suppose was the Time and place alluded to by the Assembly in their said Second Message of the said Indians, making such Complaint of their not having received satisfaction for their said large Tract of Land expecting to see some notice taken therein of such Complaint; but not finding in it any mention made thereof, we applied to the said Mr. Peters to know whether he remembered any such Complaint to have been made by the said Indians at Carlisle or elsewhere, or of any promise to make an Application for them to the Proprietaries for such satisfaction. To which he answered, That he did not remember ever to have heard at Carlisle or elsewhere of any such Complaint being made by the said Indians or any of them, or that any promise was ever given of making Application on their behalf to the Proprietaries for such satisfaction, and that he never understood that the Shawonese had or could have any right to the said Land or any Land in this Province.

"That in order to find what Right the said Indians had or claimed to the said large tract of Land, and whether there was any just Foundation for such a Complaint. We have inspected all the Minutes of Council, & other Books and Papers that we conceived could assist us in the said Enquiry, and find that the Nation of Indians called the Shawonese are Southern Indians, who being rendered uneasy by their Neighbours came up to Conestogo about the Year 1698, making about 60 Families, and desired leave of the Sasquehanna Indians, who then lived there to settle on that River. That these

Sasquehannah Indians applied to this Government that the Shawonese might be admitted to settle, and said that they would become answerable for their good behaviour. That the first Proprietary, William Penn, Esq., arriving soon after this Transaction, the Chiefs of the Shawonese and Sasquehanna Indians came to this City and renewing their said Application, the Proprietary agreed to their Settlement there; whereupon the Shawonese came under the Protection of this Government. From that time great numbers of those Indians followed them and Settled on Sasquehannah and the Upper parts of Delaware. That as they had joined themselves to the Sasquehannah Indians who were dependent on the Five Nations, they thereby fell also under their Protection. That several Treaties were held with those amongst the other Indians at different times by this Government, and from their first coming they were accounted and treated as our Indians. That some of their Young men about the Year 1727 committed some disorders in this Province, & tho' the Government had fully forgiven them for these Outrages, yet being on that account threatened by, and therefore afraid of the Six Nations, they removed to the River Ohio in the year 1728 or 1729, and there soon after put themselves under the protection of the French, who received them as their Children. That Messages were sent to this Government from them to return to us, & applications were made to the Six Nations to interpose and prevail on them so to do. And the better to induce and encourage them to leave the French, a large Tract of Land was offered them on the west side of Sasquehannah, where they had been settled before, and they were desired by all means to return thither. That the Proprietary, Thomas Penn, upon his arrival in the Year 1732, again pressed them to return and live upon this Land, which he promised them should be always kept for them and their Children if they would come and live upon it, but they declined it, saying, they were afraid of their Enemies, the Tuteloes, and that it was not convenient for their Hunting, but desired that the Land might be kept for them, which it has ever since been. But we find the Assembly are mistaken in their second Message in saying, that part of the said large Tract was surveyed into the Proprietary Manor on Conedogwainit, for the Fact was, that in order the more effectually to keep off any settlors on that large Tract, the Proprietaries caused the whole of it to be surveyed as a Proprietary Manor. And in looking into many of the Proprietary Indian purchases, we find that this Land has been bought over and over again by the Proprietaries as well of the Sasquehanna Indians as of the Six Nations to whom it did belong.

"We thought proper to report these matters thus particularly, that it might appear evident that the Shawonese did not originally belong to this Province & never had any right to any Lands in it or made any Pretensions thereto; but the Proprietaries from favour, and to encourage those Indians to remove from the neighbourhood of the French and live amongst us, offered them the said Large Tract of Land for their Habitation.

"We likewise find by the said Treaty, held by the said Commissioners at Carlisle in 1753, that the Chiefs of both these Nations of Delawares and Shawonese, did, in a solemn manner, renew the Treaties of Amity & Friendship with this Province.

"We further find, that in the Fall of the Year 1754, Mr. Weiser was deputed by this Government to have an Interview with the several Nations of Indians at Aughwick, amongst whom were some of the same Chiefs of the Delawares & Shawonese as were at Carlisle the year before; and by his Journal it appears that these very Chiefs made the strongest Professions of their friendship to this Government & of the greatful sense they retained of the constant good usage & Favours they had received from it, and in particular of our procuring the discharge of some of the Shawonese, who had been made Prisioners at Carolina, and our kind Treatment of them in their return and goodness in sending them back to their Nation, and of their own accord did ratify, confirm, and renew their Leage with this Government, without making the least Complaint against the Proprietaries or this Governm$^{t.}$ on account of the said Tract of Land, or on any other account, as it is well known to all who are acquainted with Indian Affairs, they would have been ready enough to do if they had imagined they had any just Cause for it, & without making any Enquiry whether such application had been made to the Proprietaries & what the Success thereof had been, as it was natural to expect they would, if any such promise had been made them to do it; and, therefore, we conclude that they could then have no Displeasure at any thing done to them either by the Proprietaries or Government before that time.

"And we further beg leave to remind your Honour that at one of the Conferences lately held with Scarroyody, one of the Six Nation Chiefs and Andrew Montour, in the Council Chamber, they being particularly asked, if the Delawares or Shawonese had any Cause of Complaint given them by this Government; they declared that those Indians had never mentioned any to them, and that they never heard or did believe they had any; but that they attributed their Defection wholly to the Defeat of General Braddock, and the encrease of Strength and reputation gained on that Victory by the French, & their intimidating those Indians and using all means by promises & Threats, to seduce and fix them in their Interest; and to the seeming weakness & want of Union in the English, and their appearing unable or unwilling to protect them, & particularly this Government, who had constantly refused to put the Hatchet into their Hands; And we beg leave to say, we are entirely of opinion that this is the true and sole Cause of their Defection.

"Upon the whole we beg leave to assure your Honour, that from a careful Inspection & Examination of all the Transactions between this Government and the said Delaware & Shawonese Indians, we find the Conduct of the Proprietaries and this Governmant has been always uniformly just, fair, and generous towards those Indians, & that it does not appear to us, that they could have any pretence of right to the said Land, or any part of it, or any just Foundation for any claim thereof, unless from the said Voluntary offer, so made them by the Proprietaries, to come and live on the said Land, which they declined and refused to accept of; nor that they had any just cause of Complaint against the Proprietaries or this Government, on that or any other account; and that if they had made any such Complaint at the said Treaty at Carlisle, in 1753, the said three Commissioners who knew so well what was proper, and have so minutely set forth the Transactions of that Treaty in their said Printed Report thereof, which they therein call a full and just account of all their proceedings, could not possibly have omitted so material an one; but if any such thing was there really spoken of by those Indians, they must, as we do, look upon it as a Groundless, insignificant Claim, and not worthy of being inserted in their said Report.

"ROBERT STRETTELL,
"JOSEPH TURNER,
"THOMAS CADWALADER.

"Philadelphia, Novr. 22nd, 1755."

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

"Gentlemen:

"Had you been as explicit in your first Message as you was in your last about the Shawanese Indians, I should have been sooner able to have given you a full answer as to your Enquiries upon that Subject.

"The Government of this Province has ever been remarkable for its just and favourable Treatment of the Indians; and so far have the Proprietaries been from depriving them of their Lands without paying for them that they have purchased the most of them more than once; and the Indians on their parts have upon all occasions acknowledged this Justice, and in return made warm professions of their Friendship & Affection to the Proprietaries & People of this Province, and I never heard either of the particular Complaint you mention in your Message of the Eighth Instant or of any Complaint of the kind. However, as it was before my administration, I referred the matter to the Consideration of a Committee of the Council, who have carefully examined the several Treaties & Transactions of those Indians, & have made a full Report as to the matters you enquire about, which I send you with this, and from which it seems clear to me that no such Complaint or promise was ever made,

"ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS.

"Philadelphia, 22nd November, 1755."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, the 24th of November, 1755.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esq^{r.} Lieutenant Governor, &^{ca.}

Robert Strettell, Lynford Lardner, Richard Peters, Joseph Turner,	John Mifflin, Benjamin Chew, Thomas Cadwalader,	Esquires.

A Letter from Colonel William Moore, dated Yesterday, to the Governor advising him of 2,000 Inhabitants preparing to come to Philadelphia from Chester County, to compel the Governor and Assembly to agree to pass Laws to defend the Country and oppose the Enemy, was read.

Also a Letter from Mr. Weiser to the same purpose of another considerable number from Berks County. Whereupon the Governor sent Letters to the Mayor, Recorder, & Alderman of the City of Philadelphia, & to the Magistrates in and near the said City, and also to the Sheriff of the County and City, to inform them of the said Commotion, & to take proper measures to preserve the peace.

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly to intimate to him that he thinks it necessary to Land the Neutrals lately arrived from Nova Scotia at the Province Island, and to desire the Assembly to provide for them there, was read and approved.

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

"Gentlemen:

"The success of his Majesty's Arms employed in driving the French from their Encroachments in Nova Scotia, put it into the power of Governor Lawrence to reduce the French Inhabitants of that Colony, commonly called French Neutrals, to a proper obedience to his Majesty's Government, or of forcing them to quit the Country. But they refusing to swear allegiance to his Majesty, it was thought by him and his Majesty's Council there, as well as by the Admirals Boscawen and Moyston, necessary for the safety of that Province, that a considerable number of them should be removed and divided among the other Colonies, and a part of those destined for this province are already arrived; but as I did not think it safe in our present Circumstances, to permit them to Land, Whitehall, November 27.th 1755

Sir,

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HER MAJESTY'S STATE PAPER OFFICE

We have received from William Johnson Esq.r Commander in Chief of the Forces raised in the Northern Colonies for the Reduction of Crown point, and Sole Superintendan of Indian Affairs under a Commiſsion from the late General Braddock, a Letter dated at Lake George, the 3.d September last, in which he acquaints Us with the Steps which he had taken to engage the five Nations of Indians and their Confederates in His Majesty's Interest, and complains of the Conduct of M.r Shirley Governor of the Maſsachusets Bay and Commander in Chief of His Majesty's Forces in North America, in obstructing that Service by Measures injurious to his Character and prejudicial to His Majesty's Interest.

As

Right Hon.ble Henry Fox, One of His Majesty's Principal Secretary of State.

As this unhappy Misunderstanding between Persons in so high Command may be attended with Consequences very fatal to the Publick Service, We think it Our Duty, altho' We have not yet received any Letter from Mr Shirley on this Subject, to transmit to you the inclosed Copy of the said Letter, and of a Paper therewith receiv'd, and to desire you will be pleased to lay it before His Majesty, to the end that such Directions may be given in a matter of so much importance as to his Majesty shall seem most proper. We are,

Sir,

Your most Obedient and
most humble Servants,
Dunk Halifax
J. Pitt
James Oswald
J. Pelham.

1755 November 27th	Letter from the Board of Trade to Henry Fox Esqr inclosing Papers received by them from Mr Johnson Commander in Chief of the Northern Provinces — acquainting them of the steps he had taken to engage the five Nations of Indians in the British Interest and of a Misunderstanding between himself and Mr Shirley Governor of Maſsachusets Bay who had endeavoured to render his purpose unavailing — — — — — — —	22

Lake George, 3.d September 1755.

My Lords,

Duplicate.

HER MAJESTY'S STATE PAPER OFFICE

As I left all those Papers which were not necessary to my present Military Department behind me, I cannot be exact as to the date when I had the Honour to write your Lordships with a copy of my proceedings at the late meeting with the Indians — I think it was about the middle of July

about 250 Indians have already joined me, and as small parties are every day dropping in, I expect before I can be able to leave this place, to have full 300 I sent a Message in conjunction with the six Nations to the Caghnawaga Indians who live in Canada, in order to perswade them to stand Neuter in our present disputes. I had their answer "that it was not in their "power, that by Religion and Treaties they were so united "to the French they must obey their orders" The Sachims of the several Nations now with me have this day sent them another Deputation, to try if by fresh Arguments they can bring them over to a Neutrality. this is to be the

To the Right Honourable
and Honourable
The Lords Commissioners of Trade &c.a

Nov.r 27.th 1755.
Lords of Trade.
(Gen.l Johnson's
Complaints against
Gov.r Shirley.)

upon

the last effort. Our Indians appear to be very sincere and Zealous in our cause, and their young men are hardly withheld from going out a scalping, but that is not thought either prudent or politic until the Caghnawagas give their final Answer which I expect in 2 or 3 days.

General Shirley soon after his Arrival at Albany in his way to Oswego, grew dissatisfied with my proceedings, employed one Lydius of that place, a Man extremely obnoxious to the publick in general, and to me in particular, which I told General Shirley, and the very man whom the Indians had at their publick meeting so warmly complained of. To this Man he gave a Colonel's Commission over the Indians, and set him up to oppose my Interest and management with them; under him several others were Commissioned and employed. These persons attacked all the Indians they could meet with in their Castles, and by bribes, keeping them constantly Feasting and drunk, calumniating my Character, depreciating my Commission and Authority, scandalously misrepresenting my management, endeavouring to raise Jealousies of me, in short by the most Licentious and abandoned proceedings, raised such a confusion amongst the Indians, & particularly the two Mohawk Castles, who are the most leading people, that their Sachems were under the utmost consternation; they dispatched Deputies down to me to know what was the occasion of all this surprizing Conduct, that I had told them I was appointed sole Superintendent of their affairs, which had given an universal Satisfaction thro' all their Nations, but that now every Fellow pretended to be vested with commissions, authority &cª I sent several Messages and the Interpreters up to quiet their minds, for my Military Command would not suffer me to leave Albany, otherwise I would have gone my self and I believe should soon have put a stop to all these violent measures.

I have at Albany a great number of original Letters and Papers which give particular Relations of the Lawless behaviour and villanous conduct of these Agents of Governor Shirley's, tho' if I had them here, I would not trouble your Lordships with a detail which tho' very shocking and interesting would be extremely tedious.

I shall only say in general, that a Complication of more scurrilous Falsehoods, more base and insolent behaviour, more corrupt, more destructive measures could not have been fallen on, to overset that plan of general Harmony.

Harmony, which I had with infinite pains and a great expence to the publick, so lately established — I spoke, I wrote to Governor Shirley about it, but without Remedy. they pleaded his Authority for all they did, and said they had his Commissions. and I cant but presume it must have been done with his knowledge and consent for the Indians since they have been in this Camp told me that he said at the upper Mohawk Castle, that I was an upstart of his creating and that it was he supplyed me with money and that he could pull me down &c &c they said this in publick, before the chief officers in this Army & desired they might be witnesses to what they told me.

The Reason or the pretended Reason, which General Shirley pleads for his thus opposing my Indian Management, and setting up these persons in opposition to me, is, that I would not get him some Indians to escort him from Schonectady to Oswego. I had indeed mentioned it to some of the Sachims, but they told me as his way to Oswego lay thro' their several Countries (Oswego itself is in the Senneca's Country) they could not conceive there was any occasion for their escorting him, and that when he came to Oswego there was no fear but many of the united Nations, would according to my desire meet him there and aſsist him. Numbers of the Troops had gone up without any molestation, not the least interruption had been given to any one: The Traders to Oswego were daily going and returning with single boats. Those who are acquainted with Indian affairs well know that it would have been the worst of policy for the French at that time to have violated the tranquility of the Country of the united Nations. tis true some small parties of Indians had been discovered between Schenectady and my House, but they are looked upon as a set of Freebooters, and Gov.r Shirley's body Guard would have been a full security to him against any of these; even his premier Lydius when I talked to him on this head owned to me, he saw no want of Indians for an escort, and said he would endeavour to diſswade General Shirley from it.

It is with reluctance I trouble your Lordships with these affairs, but as I have been honoured with a Department of great importance and intrusted with monies belonging to the Crown, it behoves me on every account not to be wholly silent. I have said as little as I poſsibly could

to

HER MAJESTY'S STATE PAPER OFFICE

to give your Lordships some Idea of Transactions which I apprehend come properly under the Cognizance of your Board.

Governor Shirley's conduct not only shook the system of Indian affairs, gave me fresh vexation & perplexities, but occasioned considerable and additional expences on all sides, which would otherwise have been saved. The profuse offers which his Agents made to the Indians in order to debauch them from joining me, tho' it did not succeed but with very few, yet gave to all such self importance, that when I urged to any of them who made demands upon me, their unreasonableness, they reproached me that they had refused Govr Shirley's greater offers, by whom they were promised all they should desire. The critical situation of Indian affairs in general, Mr Braddock's defeat also happening about this time Under these circumstances, I was forced to compromise matters and make compliances, which they would otherwise neither have expected, nor I submitted to

My Lords, I will hasten to a conclusion. from General Shirley's late behaviour and his Letters to me, I perceive he is, and will be my inveterate enemy: that the whole weight of his power, his influence, his craft & abilities will be exerted to blast my Character. here and here only am I anxious. Gross falsehoods (such he has already asserted both in his Speeches to the Indians and in his Letters to me) Artful misrepresentations Deliberate malice; Resentment worked up by people in his Confidence, whose Interest, nay whose very livelihood depends upon inflaming him against me. These my Lords are Circumstances which I own disturb me.

I am sensible Gov^{r} Shirley has in many respects been an active and useful servant to the Crown, and tho' I have reason to think he does not wear power with generous ease, and true dignity, yet his Rank in publick Life will naturally give him consequence and gain him influence Were I to lay open, in a particular manner, the whole scene of my Conduct with regard to the publick and him, and from the papers and Letters in my possession, to contrast his conduct, with regard to the disputes between us I say were I to do this and any one who should think it worth their while calmly to peruse and impartially to examine the full state of the case between us— I would rest Character Life and Fortune upon the decision. But I apprehend unless I am properly called upon to do this such a voluminous appeal would not find either leasure or patience from those persons, whose Opinions would be of the greatest consequence; I might rather perhaps be thought impertinent, and too full of my own importance.

My present address on this Subject to your Lordships, is to intreat you will at least receive those Accusations against me, which I suspect already are or will be transmitted by Governor Shirley, with a Suspencion of your Judgements. If your Lordships are disposed to have the whole amply to be laid before you and I live to receive your Commands, they shall be obeyed with all possible dispatch.

In the mean time I beg leave to declare to your Lordships with the most unfeigned sincerity as I did to the late General Braddock that my only motives for accepting the Commission and powers he conferred upon me, were to serve my King and my Country at this important juncture. I stipulated with him for no reward, and whatever expectations I might indulge they were never equal to the Fatigue, nor the disadvantages to my private Fortune, which I foresaw and which I

have

HER MAJESTY'S STATE PAPER OFFICE

have suffered

My Lords, Animated by my Loyalty, by my Zeal for the publick safety and welfare (both which were at stake) and by some Desire of Fame, I accepted — General Braddock's Commission, and executed the trust reposed in me Chearfully with my best Abilities and with Integrity

Governor Shirley's interfering in the authoritative and illjudged manner he has done was injurious to the true System of Indian affairs, a violation of the terms of my Commission and an arbitrary insult upon my Character

I must beg leave to declare to your Lordships that if his Majesty should think proper to Honour me — with the management of Indian affairs I do not think I can fulfil his Royal Expectations and do that service to my Country, which will be thereby intended, if my proceedings are to be Subjected to or controlled by any Governor, who may by being illadvised, or from — personal Resentments or from other undue motives, take upon him to Counteract my measures Permit me further to observe to your Lordships that unless the monies appointed to carry on Indian affairs are confided to my disposal and a certain Fund fixt on I shall be ever liable to be perplexed and opposed and perhaps prevented from bringing into effect, schemes which by a precarious Fund I may be forced to drop, a to loose that chain which may bind the whole Structure

My Lords, I hope I shall not be misunderstood, do not thirst for power or Honours, either from Ambition o pride, my Judgment not my Passions take the lead on this Subject.

From Governor Shirley's ill grounded resentments. from the imperious stile he writes to me since General Braddock's death, from his threatening — intimations and his temper, I am confirmed in thi Lesson That a Subordinate power here with regard to Indian affairs, and a fund dependent upon the will and pleasure of his Majesty's Governors in these Colonies will be incompatible with my Abilities & inclinations to conduct them. And as I have no private or

Mercenary views to serve. I must humbly beg leave to decline the charge unless I am put upon the footing as above intimated.

I shall always be disposed to take advice from any of his Majesty's Servants here and to be accountable for my Conduct to any Judicature, his Majesty shall think proper to appoint. But to be Subjected to the Caprice, or political views of Governors, I cannot think will ever Harmonize with that uniform direction of Indian affairs, which in my humble Opinion is the only Judicious plan which can be pursued.

Persuaded I am that if the management of Indian affairs those of the Six Nations I mean. are branched out into various Channells of Power the British Interest, relative to them, will be unstable perplexed, and in the end be totally lost — this past experience teaches.

I am building a Fort at this Lake which the French call Lake St. Sacrament, but I have given it the name of Lake George, not only in Honour to his Majesty but to ascertain his undoubted

Dominion here — I found it a meer Wilderness
not one foot cleared. I have made a good Waggon
Road to it from Albany. distance about 70 miles
never was house or Fort erected here before. We
have cleared Land enough to encamp 5000 men

The Troops now under my Command and the
Reinforcements on the way will amount to near that
Number. Thro' our whole March from Albany tho'
parties of the enemy have been hovering round us,
We have had but one man Scalped, and one taken
Prisoner, they had both strayed 4 miles and upwards
from our former Camp contrary to the orders I had
given. When our Boats are brought up from our
last Encampment about 17 miles from hence which
must be done by Waggons and is a tedious work.
When they arrive and are put in order I propose with a
part of the Troops to proceed down the Lake, and at the
end whereof is an important pass called Tionderogue
about 50 Miles from hence and 15 miles from Crown
Point, and then endeavour to take Post til the rest
of the Forces join me, and then March to the attack of
Crown

Crown point all which I hope to effect in about 3 Weeks.

We have reason to expect a very powerfull Resistance and a number of Indians against us, greatly Superior to what we have.

I am
with the utmost respect
my Lords
your Lordships
most obedient humble
Servant

Wm Johnson

On Sunday the 30th day of No

Present His Excellency Sir Charles Hardy Kn

Mr. Alexander
Mr. Kennedy
Lt. Govr. De Lancey
Mr. Horsmanden
} Mr. Murray
Mr. Rutherfurd
Mr. Holland
Mr. Smith

Mischief done by Indians in Minisink.

His Excellency communicated a Letter from Col. DeKey o County of the 28th Instant, Inclosing sundry Informations of M lately done in Minisink by a Number of Indians — And laid b the Board Copies of the Orders he had sent, since the Receipt of Papers, to the Colonels of Orange and Ulster Counties, to detach for the Protection of the Inhabitants, against the Incursions the Indians.

Notice to be sent to the Six Nations & they desired to interpose.

The Council advised that a Message should be sent to acqu the Six Nations of these Incursions, (supposed to be made by the Shawenese, Delawares, and other Indians dependent on the Six Nations, joined by some of the River Indians) And to desire the would send Messages to all the Nations dependent on them, requi them not to attack the English or to assist the French against th and declaring such as persist after this Notice to be Enemies to the Six Nations, and that they would act against them accordingly.

At a Council held at Fort George in the City New York on Monday the first day of December 175

Present

His Excellency Sir Charles Hardy Knt. Capt. Genl. &c.
Mr. Alexander } Lt. Govr. DeLancey } Mr. Murray } Mr. Chambers
Mr. Kennedy } Mr. Horsmanden } Mr. Rutherfurd } Mr. Smith

[illegible]

His Excellency communicated the 17th Article of his Instructions from their Excellency's the Lords Justices, directing him to recommend to the Council and Assembly, to consider of a proper Law to be passed for the granting a permanent Revenue for defraying the necessary Charges of Government, taking care that such Law be indefinite without limitation of time, and that Provision be made therein for a competent Salary to the Captains General and Governors in Chief of this Province, and likewise for competent Salaries to all Judges, Justices and other necessary and usual Officers of Government; and also for a certain and permanent Fund for repairing and maintaining th Fortifications, for making Annual Presents to the Indians, and for the other contingent Expences attending that Service: and in general for all such other Charges of Government as may be fixed or ascertained.

[illegible]

His Excellency also communicated the draft of the Speech he proposed to make to the Council and General Assembly, and desired the opinion of the Council thereon, and whether they would advise any Alteration or Addition thereto. The Speech being read was approved of.

At

By His Excellency Major General William Shirley General & Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Forces in North America &c.

Upon taking into his Consideration the very great importance of the Numerous Nations of Indians, in Alliance with his Majesty's Southern Colonies, the advantages that will accrue to the English in General from their Friendship, & the Particular Necessity there is at this time, to enter into a Solemn Treaty with them in order not only to Secure them to the British Interest so far as to Prevent them from Joining in the Designs of the French, but to engage them to Assist his Majesty's Subjects in defending their Frontiers & Annoying their Enemies, it is Proposed,

1st That a Treaty be held with the Several Tribes of Indians in Alliance with his Majesty's Southern Colonies, at such time & Place as shall be agreed on between the Governments of North & South Carolina, & Notified by them to the General & the Other Western Colonies as far North as Pensylvania,

2dly That one or More Commissioners should be Appointed by each of the Western Provinces from South Carolina to Pensylvania both inclusive to Carry on that treaty in behalf of his Majesty & of those Colonies, to be Particularly instructed by their Respective Governments for that Purpose,

3dly That such Instructions be Without delay transmitted to the General & that he or the Commander in Chief of the King's forces for the time being give such further Instructions to the Commissioners Collectively or Separately as he shall think Necessary for his Majesty's Service,

4thly That the Governments of Virginia & the two Carolina's as soon as Possible Dispatch Messengers to those Southern Tribes inviting them to a General treaty in his Majestys name & in the Names of all the said Western Provinces, And that the time & Place agreed on for such treaty be Particularly Mentiond in such invitation,

5thly That at such Appointed place Provision be made for the Reception & entertainment of the Indians that may attend the Treaty, by the Province wherein such place is, to be afterwards Reimbursed in Proportion by the Other Colonies,

6thly That money be Provided by the said Western Provinces for defraying the Expence of the treaty & for Providing a proper Assortment of Goods to be given in Presents to the Indians that shall attend, & sent into their Country to be distributed among those that Cannot personally assist at the Treaty,

7thly That the Commissioners be instructed to engage those Tribes to Assist the English in the Present Dispute & to take Up the Hatchet against the French & their Indians, & that they be enabled to Promi English Pay & Provisions, Arms Ammunition & Indian Cloath to such of their Warriors as shall Joyn his Majesty's Forces or the Troops in the Service of any of the said Western Provinces, & as to such of them as shall incline to Attack the French upon the Ohio, or any of the Indians in their Alliance to Promise them Certain Rewards for every Prisoner or Scalp they shall bring in, & to Appoin Certain Places to which such Scalps or Prisoners shall be brought,

8thly That Proper persons be Appointed by the Commissioners to retur with the Indians from the Treaty into their own Country if Necessary to Conduct the Warriors to such Places as shall be Appointed for their Rendevouze where Stores of Provisions Arms & ammunition should be Provided for their Use, a true Copy from

W Alexander Secy

Dear Sir:

I send these few Lines after Capt. More to acquaint you I have seen a Seneca Indian, who the Interpreter says is of good Character, he informes me has seen the Messenger that was sent to the Messessagues, and who is to be here in a few days he told him that not only the Messessagues, but the whole Neighbouring Nations have gladly Accepted of General Sherleys Invitation, that were it not for the Dangers on the Lake in the Winter they would have been here before this time, but that we may Expect them Early in the Spring. I give you this Information that the General may be Apris'd of it, that he may either send me Instructions or some proper person to treat with them. let me likewise observe to you, that there are very few Indian presents left in the Store and will be Insufficient if great Numbers come. I am. Sir

Your most Obedient
Humble Servant
James. F. Mercer

Oswego Nov.r 30th 1755.

A true Copy Examin'd by
Wm. Alexander Secy

Mr. Alexander

Col. Mercer General

[illegible]

Memoranda Extracted from the Minutes of the Treaty held with the Several Nations of Indians by General Johnson at Fort Johnson Viz.

Arent Stevens Interpreter.

His Excellency's speech addressed to the Mohawks Senecas Oneidas & Tuscaroraes — acqts ym he is Glad to see ym after the Dangers & fatigues of ye Campaign at the Meeting place of all the Nations — That he Recommended his Landg for them so soon after his return was very pressing. That he had recd a Lettr from ye Brother ye Govr of N. York dated 9 days ago which Overtook him at Schenectady acqg him yt ye Shawanese & Delawares & other Indns were committg Hostilities in ye So parts of this Prove as also Jersey & Pensilvia mentioned ye Great Damages they had done & killed Gt No of people who had never Annoi'd thm —— That as these were looked upon as allies & subjects of the Six Nats — desired them to issue an ordr ym without Loss of time to prevent their doing any more Mischief & Insist on their turng ye Arms & Joing ym against the French their Commn Enemy — That they had Engaged to do this in June last at his house & was surprized they had not done it before — If not. that He & the Other Governrs wou'd put a Stop to their Barbarities and do themselves yt Justice the Laws of Nature ~~required~~ allowed —

Brethren of the Confederate Nations —

Desires ym to send him from time to time what News they recd from yr allies to ye So. & Wtward as well as all other News yt may be Necessary. & Engages to do ye like by ym.

Their Answer.

Brother.

Tells him they were obliged to him for their Welcome & giving ym ye above & yt they were Equally Rejoiced to meet him after his Great fatigue at ye place & congratulate him on his Success over ye Commn Enemy —

That it gave ym ye Greatest Concern to hear of ye Barbarities of ye Shawanese & Delawrs committed on ye English & assure him they shall without Loss of time send his Message thro' all the Nations & use all their Argmts in yr Power for yt Effect by ye time on this Import Occasion.

That they wod recommend to their Allies to keep a Constt Correspondence with him as they know it to be of the Utmost Consequence at all times & more so at the Present.

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At a Meetg of the same Indians Decembr 26. 1755

Sequarasera a Chief of the Tuscaroras Spoke ~~said~~

Brother Warraghiyagey

We return you Our hearty thanks for ye care you have taken to supply us with some Guns Ammunitn & paint not knowing when the Enemy might come upon ym — Also they had been spoke to by ye Bros for 2 yrs to get a Place of Defence made agt ye French but never cod get ym to conclude till now & that they had now promised to [illegible]

Canaghquaiesen spoke & confirmed what ye Tuscaroras had said & returned their hearty thanks & desired they might also be supplyed with Ammunn ye Guns & paint

That they had been drunk for several yrs past in not hearkng to the advice of joining ye Sachems as one Castle that now they had opened ye Ears wch had been stopped & were determined [illegible] & direct them by ye English —

That they had long been blinded to the French designs but that now ye Eyes were open & they saw ye designs of deprivg ym of ye Huntg Grounds It was they that blinded ym but now they cod see as plain as ye Sun at Noonday — That the French had lately invited ym to meet ym at Oswegatchy but they had determined never to hearken to them nor to listen to any but himself — That they spoke not their lips only but from ye Bottom of yr Hearts

That He had blamed ym for not takg care of ye Allies to the Soud but assured him they had sent ye Belts to them with a Message to them that they wod not join any but ye five Natns, but that they had since been informed those Belts & Messages had gone directly to the French That they had now sent another Message desiring ym to come & speak to ym & assures Johnson they wod do their Utmost to put a Stop to ye Bloodshed yt was & desired the Govr to do their Utmost in bringing them to them & Assures him yt nothing drew ym from ye 5 Natns but the Large Presents the French made ym

That they had sent to River Inds & [illegible] to come to ye Castle to hear from their own Mouths what they had to say for their killg so many of ye Brethren yt if they did not come on yt Message yt Oneidas & Tuscaroras Sachems were determd to go to them & know the Reason

That Govr Shirley had promised ym an other that built ym a Fort wch has hitherto been neglected — Requested it might be done Immediately as they knew not when ~~the Enemy~~ ye French might come upon them

Johnson made his Answr ye 7 Feby 1756 — & Spoke to ye Tuscaroras & takes Notice of ye friendly Speech sent him to N York & ye Acknowledgmt for ye kindness they had shewed in sendg them some Ammunit &c Wished they might ever be Enabled ym to defend ymselves agt ye French. That he was Glad they had joined ye Oneidas in buildg a Fort as a place of Defence & to join ye English against ye French —

Spoke Next to the Oneidaes much to the same Purpose & Encouraged & Pressed them to Join the English against the French —

That He Was heartily Glad their Eyes Were now Open & that they saw the Designs of the French & Were Determined to follow his Advice which shod. always be for their Advantage That had they followed his Advice when first given the French Wod. not now have been in Possession of so large a Pt. of yr Country and bid them Defiance as they Now did Now Requested they Wod. Shake off that Infatuation yt had so long Prevailed over yu & Join with the English & Recover yr Lands — Commended yr not Going with yr Request of the Govr of Canada to meet him at Oswegatchy as it Wd be a Breach of Covent.

Then Spoke to ye Oneidaes & Tuscaroras & told ym

He Was pleased to hear they had not been so Remiss as he Imagined in respect to the Delawares & Shawanese & that they Were determined to have a Conference wth ym Pressed ym very Strenuously to Exert yr Authority at yt Meeting & to let him know ye Result —

That He had heard Govr Shirley Say he Wd build a Fort Some time Since, did not know the Reasons he had not done it & Wd speak to him abt it & Wd order as they desired some People to Go abt it immediately,

Ended here — & a Letter follows wrote by the Reverend Mr Hawley at Onohoghquagey to Majr Johnson dated Decemb. 27. 1755 which Recites That the Indians who had been with his Message to the Delawares Were Just returned to Oquago & desired he Wod Pen a Lettr from them Giving them an Accot how the Quarrel began between ye Delawares & the English — Wch the Delawares Gave to the Message sent by Johnson

Brotr Johnson

We have been to Tiaoga & the Indns there informed that there was a Party of Engl at Juniata alias Shamokin about 2 Months ago on a Scouting Design & While there there Was News that a Party of Frch & Indns from Ohio at there & that Scarroyady advised the English Party to Return back by all means to keep On the East Side of the River that before they had gone far a Party of ym came upon ym fired & drove ym into ye River Where A Were drowned. That Not long after this an Englishman had Come to Skahandowane Wyomen and as he Used to trade up this River the Indns asked him Whether He brought any Goods wth him — but that he had brot his Body & Flesh & that they might do what they pleased With him — Sir You said he & ye 6 Nations yt killed Our People the Other day I was there & knew yr Language It was Certainly You that did the Mischief and Now said he You and the Engh will fight — Now You may [illegible] that You and Your Uncle ye 6 Natns are able to Stand ye Engh — Well You see the [illegible] can Pinch You between Our Fingers — I dont Cheat or Act underhanded as in the Dark but tell You plainly that the Engh are Going to fight You — In 6 Days the Engh will Set Out from all Parts agst You — The Englishman returned to the White People and informed them that a gt Multitude of Indns were Collected at Wyomen from all Parts — Upon that the Engh that Way made it their Business to take as many of the Delawares & other Indns who lived among the White People as they Could lay their hands On & make them Prisoners — The Numbr they took he said is 232 in all. One Old Man [illegible] who heard the Acct the Englishman brot from Wyomen and made his Escape wth much difficulty & Carried the News back to Wyomen & gave an Acct of the English taking Delawares who lived among the White People — &c &c —

The Indns of Wyomen were Concerned after the Englishman had been there & kept Scouts Out to see if any English Were Coming agst them at last they saw a Single man coming the Indns Went to the White Man asked him whether he Was alone. He told them that 3 more who Were Gentlemen Were Coming to have a treaty with them they Soon arrived & Called the Indns together & Informed them they Were sent to treat With them abt making a Peace — that that their Squaws & Children might be protected from the French — The Indns desired to see their Commissn they then Produced a Certificate of it in Writing — The Indns objected agt their not having Wampum, With that they Produced another Paper — Now the Old man who had been taken by the Engh & had made his escape said to ye Indns Dont you believe these Men they only intend to deceive You and Put you to ye Sword or make Prisoners of You — On that the Indns took their Hatchets & knocked all yem on ye Head & killed ym & Twenty ye Indn Traders who was there living — Now Brother Johnson We have Given You an Acct of what has Happened between the Eng & Delawrs & how the Quarrel begun & What has happened. If it be all lies We Cant help it — Now We Will Give the Answer the Delawares have Sent You in Answr to Yr Message by the Beaver —

Brothr Johnson

You desire to know the Cause of the Quarrel between us & the English, So do We. You Say You are Ignorant of it So are We — We know it Not — You Say We are not at Our Command but under the Direction of the 6 Nations — This true — We are Women Our Uncle must Say What We Shall do He has the Hatchet & We must do as he Says — We have not the Hatchett — We are Poor Women & Out of Temper

We

5.

We are Much Obliged to You Brother that You have told us to Stop & leave off that We now began to do — We hear You — We Stop & Repent

But Brother Johnson Some of Our Young men a few Days ago Went Out against the English We Cant help it tho We have Sent After them as soon as We heard from You Brother to Stop them and Call them back. — Now Bro.r You must take Care of Your Selves Many of Our People are now [illegible] amongst ye English We must See them all Come or else We are not Satisfied We shall Wait two Months to See whether they Are Given up if We Dont then See them We dont know What We shall do. When We See our People again We shall Continue to make up the Matter & settle affairs not until then. — We Desire hereafter that What You Send be on Paper for the future & not on Wampum! — In addition to ye Lett.r above the 6 Nation Sp.s [illegible] Brot Johnson ~~Bearing~~ [illegible] which they advise him to be strong on his f.t & that they are Calls are there from Ohio that they may [illegible] untill [illegible] engaged in such things as make for Peace & Harmony — We doubt not but ye 6 Nat.s will endeavour to make up [illegible] differences between ym & the Eng.l — The Delawares further Informed ye 6 Nat.s that two Companys of yr Men had sett Out agst ye Eng.s but that they had since agreed to [illegible] ye Peace, in One & ye Other &c. — & that a Number had sett Out lately from the Ohio agst ye Eng. frontiers —

Capt Hawley adds that he does not think the Delawares intend to be Peaceable & [illegible] the English might build a Fort there to keep ye [illegible] of ye [illegible]

Fort Johnson Feb.y 29. 1756 —

At a Meeting of the Aughquageys, Tuscaroras, Skaniadaradighronos Chughnuts Mahickanders & Shawanese — Thomas their Speaker Stood up & went thro the Ceremony of Condolance for the Loss of Johnsons Sister & Brother in law & then Proceeded to Addressing himself to Johnson in ye Ind.n Name of

Str.d Warraghiyagey. — Tells him That they are now Open their Hearts & throw off the Burden w.ch had lain heavy on them That they were Grieved to [illegible] all the Nations liv.g on the B.ch of Susqueh.a Except Aughquageys had joined ye Fr., & hence it Was not so — appeals to him whether they had not always been of his acquaintance & Proved true Brethren to the Eng. & Strictly adhered to their Agreem.ts & Covenants wt ym & their forefathers might depend on it they were resolved to [illegible]

Str.d That they Speak now in behalf of the Oneidas, Tuscaroras, Skaniadaradighronos & Chughnuts & may say now also Speak in behalf of ye Shawanese Who are on their Way to Chugnuts where they are to live Settle ~~[illegible]~~ under Protection, also ye Delawares Ind.s who now live on ye East Br. of Susquehan.a near ye head have given us ye Strongest Assurances that they

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will live and die with us & in Consequence Will keep up the Same friendship & allea[illegible]
English which now Subsists between us & them — —— a Belt.

Bro^s Beg leave to lay y^e Immediate Danger & distress before You — We are intire[illegible]
Mercy of [illegible] their Ind^s Our & Your Com. Enemy — they threaten us to [illegible] for our
attachm^t to You & they look upon us y^e all English — Earnestly Request [illegible]
Men [illegible] be supplyed with Arms &c^a to Defend Ourselves [illegible]

At a Meet^g of the Same Indians Feb^y 2^d 1756 — — Present —
The Rev^d M^r Hawley — Lieut Miller — M^r Reed & the three Interpreters.
M^r Dan^l Clawse — Arent Stevens — W^m Printup —

Canadagaye a Mohawk Chief & Answered (my Speaker) Stood up & Answ[illegible]

Brethren — (mentioning y^e Several Nations names)

I approve much of y^r Openness of Heart to me On this Occasion as the surest way to Redress Grievances advises y^m always to follow the same Method assures y^m he will Endeav^r to Ease y^r Minds & do every thing in His Power to contribute to y^r Happiness — Advises not to mind y^e [illegible] idle Reports & Words of y^e silly peoples who are nothing [illegible] Publick & Ind^n Affairs Whenever they Are Uneasy to Communicate their y^r Uneasiness to him & as they have always given him full Assurances of y^r Attachm^t to y^e Eng[illegible] it Gave Great Pleasure and Animates him to take more Care of them whom he can depend On as they Continue Stedfast to the English ——— a Belt

Brethren as Before

Agrees with them that their Present Situation is dangerous On many Acc^ts has [illegible] them to build a Fort — & to defend y^m ag^st y^e French — Advises y^m to keep a Watch & look Out against the Designs of the Fr. & let him know it & he will come immediately to y^r [illegible]

Confirmed by — a B[illegible]

Feb^y 2^d 1756 The Above Indians Gave their Answ^r Viz^t.

Brother Warraghiyagey —

We the Several Nations of Ind^s living at & ab^t Susquehan^a River & its Branches return Our hearty thanks for y^r kind Compliance to Our Request. As for Your Great Regard & [illegible] to Our Safety to Come in Person to Our Assistance Sh^d there be Occasion. Be Assured of Our Fri[illegible] as long as the Waters of y^e Susquehan^a Run — Gave a Belt & finished Giving thanks of 3 [illegible]

Friday y^e 6^th Sent an Indian Express to know y^e Occasion of y^e 6 Nat^s Delay with a Belt of W[illegible]
Monday y^e 9^th Not hearing of y^m yet & all the Other Nations Waiting here impatiently dispatched Jacobus Clemens (One of y^e Interpreters) to bring them down Speedily
Wednesday y^e 11^th — Three Onondago Warr^rs arrived w^th 3 str^s of Wampum from y^e Sachems acquaint[illegible] that their Nations (Cayogas & Senekas) were met & [illegible] they had to [illegible] & W^d be here to Morrow

Wednesday Feby the 11: In the Afternoon the Onondagas & Cayougas arrived & told me that the Senecas Wd be here to Morrow —

The Mohawk Sachems came to me w an Express from their Brethren of Canajoharees acquaintg them & me that their Brethren of Oneidas & Tuscaroroes were to be on friday at their Castle in Ordr to Condole the Death of Great Hendrick and the Other Chiefs of that Castle who Were Slain at Lake George & desired my Attendance at the Ceremony — I Gave them the Proper Belts of Wampum on that Occasion & told them as I had so Great a No of Indns at my house I Cd not Attend — to wh they readily agreed & Sett off —

Thursday 12 The Senecas arrived & sd that the Oneidas & Tuscaroroes would not be here till Saturday Or Sunday for the Abovemd Reasons —

13 Some More of the Senecas arrived when I performed ye Necessary Ceremony on ye Occasion

14. I had an Express Sent me by the Canajoharees that a Large No of Tuscar: Mohks & were met there & Wd finish ye Condolence ye Day & Sett off ye Next & On

15. Those Indns arrived and I performed the Ceremony on that Occasion as is Usual

after this Canaghquayeson An Oneida Sachem Stood up & Spake.

Bro. Warr. —

Informed him of the Reason of their Delay Which Was on Acct of ye Ceremony & Clearing the Road as Customary on Such Occasions (Vizt those killed in Battle) that they had placed Others in their Rooms, which Was Neglected by their Other Brethren of Indns that had passed & Was therefore Wrong — a Belt —

Bro. As We have now Informed You the Reasons of our Delay & hope Eased of yr Minds We desire What You have to say to us may be said Cooly otherwise it May be of ill Consequen as Our Wellfare depends on Cool deliberations — a Belt —

Bro. As this Was the Council Room where Business Was transacted & you told us you kept a White Wing at it to Sweep it Clean We now take it down & Sweep all the Dust out of it that Nothing may hinder or Interrupt our Councils or Deliberations —
3 Strs of Wampum

Feby the 16: The Answer

Brethren — Was Satisfied with Reasons they Gave for their Stay & approved their Conduct on ye Occasion & Acknowledged ye Great Pleasure it Gave him to see so many of them at this ~~Occasion~~ Council. demonstrating Regard to his Invitation —
a Belt

Brethren — Acknowledged the Caution Given of Cool Deliberations — a Belt

Brethren — Informed them that as he Expected so Great a Number of Indians he had made the Council Chamber Very Clean & Swept all the Dust away but as they might perhaps Imagine their Delay On the Road had Occasioned some Dust to Gather — Was Glad they had taken the Fan (White Wing) down to Sweep it Away yt nothing might Impede ye Consultations — Gave 3 Strgs of Wampum

8 At a Private Meeting of the upper Mohawk Castle Wednesday the 18th Feby

Present all the Sachems & Warriors. — ye Adams [illegible] Bror [illegible] Stood up & Spoke

Bror Warraghiyagey Returned thanks for the Condolance in fortifying a [illegible] & for ye Garrison placed there in their Absence for ye Security of ye Wives & Children [illegible] We have daily Accts of ye Designs of the French Attacking us for our Attachmt to You We [illegible] & a [illegible] of the [illegible] for our defence as soon as possible — a Belt —

Answer. Bro. Warraghiyagey

Was fully convinced of ye Sincerity & Attachmt to his Majesty's Interest : Readily complied with their Request not doubting it would be agreeable to ye Majesty ye K. who has nothing more at heart than the Welfare of his faithful Subjts & assures ym of his Promise Pro Belt

At a Meeting of 586 of the Six Nations Indians & their Allies — at Fort Johnson Febr 1756

Present The Honble Wm Johnson Sole Superintendent of their Affairs
The Revd Mr Ogilvie Capt Buckwith Lieut. Dunbar Lieut Lottridge
The Revd Mr Hawley Lieut Miller Lieut. Pottinger Capt [illegible]
other Indian Officers & several Gentlemen and the Depy Secrety & Interpr

Brethren of ye 6 United Nations — mentions that

He had heard with [illegible] of ye Senecas ye most Eminent Nation [illegible] had a Misunderstanding with ye Brethren [illegible] which [illegible] fatal [illegible] Was [illegible] Affair & [illegible] the [illegible] in ye Head [illegible] did with the greatest [illegible] — a Belt

Brethren with this Belt I [illegible] from the [illegible] they [illegible] — a Belt.

Brethren [illegible] of the Principal [illegible] Cover their Dead Bodies that they might not offend Our Sight any more & bury the Whole Affair in Oblivion

a Belt —

Brethren of [illegible]

I have now agreeable to ye ancient Custom Scattered that Cloud [illegible] & the Sun now shines bright again [illegible] under its enlightning & cherishing Influence [illegible] on our important Business With Our Usual Chearfulness & Unanimity.

The Remaining Part of the Ceremony of Condolance Chiefly in the Name of [illegible] by ye Mohawks [illegible] the Half King & Mr Montour [illegible]

Brethren of the Cayugaes and Todirighronos. — Mentions that

By Constant Experience We discover that the Life of Man is as the flower of ye [illegible] In this transitory Scene therefore Resignation becomes us under the loss of our [illegible]

& dearest Friends. Comfort Yourselves therefore under the Losses You have Sustained as becomes Reasonable Creatures. — With this Belt I Cover ye Bodies of all Your Dead that they may no More offend Yr Sight - - - - - - - - a Belt.

of the Onondagoes Oneidas Tuscarroroes Skaniadaradighronos Aughquagey and the Mohawks of both Castles. — I Perform the same Ceremony as To You —

After the Ceremony Six French Prisoners Some of those who Were taken at ye late Battle at Lake George were delivered with Great Ceremony in Ordr to Replace those following Indians Who were killed at that Battle. Vizt

Tayanoga alias Hendrick — Tanaghriyens. Waniacoone of Canajoharee Skahyowio. Onienkoto of the Mohawks — Nica-anawa & Karonyadex Son of Cayadanoras — a Tuscarore —

They Received the Prisoners with the greatest Marks of Gratitude & Satisfaction Every Nation giving the Shout of Approbation & then Carried off the Prisoners to yr Respective Families. Thus Ended the Ceremony Necessary on those Occasions agreeable to their Customs. —

The Answer of the Six Nations & their Allies — Febry ye 19. 1756 —

Present Majr Johnson — Mr [illegible] — Mr Hawley Lt Miller, Dunbar, Capt Butler & other Indn Officers three Interpreters —

Redd Wanig —

Returned their Sincere thanks for his Attention in drying away ye Tears & Removing them from yr Hearts & in Return Performed the same Ceremony with him a String of Wampm

Two Expressed their Sense of his Goodness in taking the Hatchet out of yr Heads — a Belt —

Third Were thankfull for Cleansing ye Blood out of yr Sight — An ancient Custom of Our Forefathers - - a Belt — & Were thankfull likewise for Covering the Graves of those Who Were Slain in that Unnecessary Affair —

Fourth Acknowledged his kindness in settling their much discomposed Minds & for so Seasonably Reminding You of that Harmony that has always subsisted between Our Forefathers & Our Brethren ye Engh an Acct of which had been down by Tradition from Father to Son — Promised due Attention to his Advice as they Were Convinced it tended to yr Wellfare & assured him they'd bury that affair in Oblivion - - - a Belt —

The Cayougas Todenighrono — The Onondagoes — The Oneidas — The Tuscarroroes — & Skaniadaradighronos — The two Castles of the Mohawks all by separate Different Speeches & Belts Returned also their hearty thanks to the General for his kind Affectionate & Publick Condolance & then the

Six United Nations as One Body did With the greatest Thankfullness Acknowledge his Brotherly Affection for their Cleansing ye Habitations & purifying them from ye Blood contracted by ye Death of their Principal Men

10

The Speaker then took up a Large Belt which the General had Given with an Emblem of the 6 Natns Joind hand in hand with Us & Spoke as follows

Brot Warragh—y

Desire him to Look with Attention on ye Belt & Remember ye Solemn [illegible] We Entered into When You took upon You the Managemt of Our Affairs — & [illegible] they look upon them as Sacred & Shd on their pt punctually Perform them as long as they were a People — Gave a Prodigious Large Belt.

The Speaker then took up another Large Belt which Was given Us by ye Govr of N.Y. Some Years ago — & Repeated the Solemn Engagemts & promises that were made ye by the Representatives of all the Govrs then Present & Said

Brot Warragh—y We hope Our Brethren the English Will seriously Consider and Remember the Promises made to Us by this Belt & Strictly Perform them and We promise to do the Same tho We have no Records but our Memories — a Very Large Belt

Brot Warragh—y

As You and the Govr of Philada have asked us what Reason We Can possibly assign for the Barbarous Behaviour of Our Nephews the Delawares — All We can Say at Present is that they are deluded by the Craft & Subtilty of Our perfidious Enemy the French, but We Promise On Our Parts We Will try all Means to stop ye Proceedgs further in their Hostilities & beg You Wod do the Same 3 Strs of Wamm

Brother Warragh—y

We Earnestly Intreat You Will immediately acqt all ye Govs Concerned that We 6 Natns have not been unattentive to this Important Affair but have already Sent Some of Our People to take the Hatchet of the hands of Our Nephews ye Delawares and We should be glad You Wod draw ye Forces from ye Frontiers then We Will Endeavr to bring Our Nephews the Delawares to deliver up all their Prisoners they have taken & to make the Best Acknowledgement in their power for their [illegible] & Treacherous Behaviour. — a Belt.—

Brethren of the 6 Nations — Says—

Was Extremely pleased with their kind & friendy Condolence & Condoling [illegible] of my Publick Condolence [illegible] ye Road all Causes of Uneasiness on both sides Were now Removed [illegible] to deliver ye [illegible] which here Then Wod be Prepared to hear —

Ended this 1st pt of the Treaty —

Feby ye 19. 1756.

At a Meeting of Several of the Principal Warriors from the Most Remote Parts of the Seneca Country who never before Came down to any Meeting the Chief Man (Grayantagoran) alias Tendarondy Spoke

Brother Warraghiyagey

[illegible] my Brother Warriors from Canuskago & Dowagee [illegible] Embrace this Opportunity of Shaking You by the hand and Assure You that Nothing but my Regard for You & [illegible] heard Your Sentiments from Your own Mouth Could have Induced me & my Young men to have taken such a Journey at such a Season of ye Year. We had Sent Some Sachems to attend Several of ye Meetings — We are now Come to have the pleasure of [illegible] & [illegible] You & we are heartily Glad to See You —

Brethren of Canuskago —

As [illegible] are at least [illegible] all the friends of ye Great King & Allies It always Gave a Sensible pleasure to see [illegible] but more Especially You whom I had never seen before & [illegible] an Opportunity of Commencing an Acquaintance & friendship with You which is Natural among my Brethren & [illegible] will lead me to [illegible] Especially with so brave a People as You have always been deemed —

Feby the 20th — 1756

Presented the following Speech Present Major Johnson & the other Gentlemen & Interpreters as on ye 19th

Brethren of the Six united Nations, Your Allies & Dependants.

It always Gives me the most sensible Pleasure to meet You here that We may felicitate ourselves in the Benign Warmth & Light of that Fire kindled here for Our mutual Good — May it ever Shine as the Sun & illuminate & Guide the Day that You & Your Posterity to the latest Generations may Rejoice in its benevolent Influence — a Belt —

Brethren

It Gives me Particular Satisfaction to meet You here at this Time for two Important Reasons. The 1st that it affords me an Opportunity of a [illegible] by Interview under the Shade of the Tree which We lately so Solemnly & Judiciously planted and of Calmly Consulting & maturely Deliberating of matters of the utmost Consequence & Which nearly Concerns our Mutual Welfare Safety & Honour — a Belt —

The Second is, That it Gives me an Opportunity of Shaking You by the hand with a Brotherly Affection & in the Name of the Great King Your Father Congratulate You on ~~the~~ our late happy Success of Which I make no doubt must Give You the most sensible pleasure — & I flatter myself from Your late repeated Protestations of Fidelity to Your

12

Your Brethren the English Shall prove the Means of Animating You and all Yr faithfull allies to Stand forth With Yr Usual bravery on all future Occasions — a Belt

Then Goes on & in an Expressive full Manner in a long Speech tells ym That how great might their Success have been had more of Yr Warrs appeared in the field on ye 8 Sept. Day If the Bubbling or Drops of ye War Kettle did So much, how great would have been the Consequence had it Boiled With its usual Fury — like a mighty Torrent would have carried all before it &c. &c. — thanks ym in the Name of ye King for their Gallant Sentimt. for ye Gallt. Behavr. — that it Gave him Pleasure to Speak of ye Fidelity & Courageous Conduct from ye Seat of War &c. future as Wd endeavr. them to him & all their loving Brethren [illegible] — Ended with a Belt —

Brethren.

On my Arrival from Lake George in Octr. last I Recd from ye Govr. of [illegible] from ye Govr. of Pensilva. the first Acct. of Yr Nephews the Delawares & Shawanese [illegible] on Yr Brethren of Pensilva. Maryld. & Virga. in the most Cruel & Barbarous Manner Kill'g & Barbarously Butcher'g the Innocent [illegible] People who lived on ye frontiers of Said Govts. burning & destroy'g all they had and yt without Cause or Reason that I can understand — this I Communicated immediately to You by One of Your People a Seneca with a Belt of Wampm desiring You Wd without Loss of time put a Stop to Yr Nephews Spilling any More of Yr Brethrens Blood and that You Wd Enquire & let me know the Reasons of this their Wicked & unparallel'd Behavr. to their Kg. & Subject Your Brethren &c. — I now Repeat the Same & Expect to hear What You have done in Consequence of that Message & Desire —

Brethren I tell You With Concern that I plainly foresee that unless You Six Nat. who have always Maintained a Superiority Over them Wd now Exert Yourselves in this Case You Will not Only loose yt Authority wch they have hitherto Acknowledged but Will Make them Yr Enemies

a Large Blk. Belt.

Brethren

I told You before the Govr. of Pensilva. [illegible] Behalf of Your Nephews ye Delawares & Shawanese & has also Sent Yr friend Scarroyade & Andw. Montour to You With this Message & to know Yr Sentimts. thereon. I desire & Expect You Will Pay a Just Regard to this Message & Afford him all the Assistance You Can in bringing that unhappy Affair to as good an Issue as Possible —

a Belt

Brethren.

An Account of CONFERENCES held, AND TREATIES made,

Between Major-general

Sir William Johnson, Bart.

AND

The chief Sachems and Warriours

OF THE

Mohawks,
Oneidas,
Onondagas,
Cayugas,
Senekas,
Tuſkaroras,
Aughquageys,
Skaniadaradighronos,
Chugnuts,
Mahickanders,
Shawaneſe,
Kanuſkagos,
Toderighronos, and
Oghquagoes,

Indian Nations in *North America,*

At their Meetings on different Occaſions at *Fort Johnſon*
in the County of *Albany,* in the Colony of *New York,*
in the Years 1755 and 1756.

WITH

A Letter from the Rev. Mr. Hawley to Sir
William Johnson, written at the Deſire
of the Delaware Indians.

And a PREFACE

Giving a ſhort Account of the Six Nations, ſome
Anecdotes of the Life of Sir William, and Notes
illuſtrating the Whole;

Alſo an Appendix

Containing an Account of Conferences between ſeveral
Quakers in *Philadelphia,* and ſome of the Heads of
the *Six Nations,* in *April* 1756.

LONDON:
Printed for A. Millar, in the *Strand.* M.DCC.LVI.
[Price 1*s.* 6*d.*]

PREFACE.

IN peruſing the following papers, in a fair manuſcript, ſent hither from America, and from which they are now faithfully printed, I was of opinion, that their publication might be acceptable to the curious, eſpecially to every man who loves his country.

An Engliſh neutral, a Britiſh ſubject, who views the war we are now ſo juſtly engaged in, the cauſes that led us into it, and the conſequences that may attend it, as ſo many trifling occurrences; who can read his Majeſty's and the French king's declarations of war with the ſame goût as he would thoſe of Carthage againſt Rome, and Rome againſt Carthage; who is no more concerned at their events, than at the atchievements of the renowned Don Quixote; and who beholds ſuch formidable armaments now on the ocean, and on lands far and near, with the ſame indiffe-

4/52 ad

rence as he does the flight and return of birds of paſſage; even ſuch an unthinking Briton, if ſuch there be, may be ſuppoſed to have curioſity enough to read, with ſome pleaſure, the ſentiments of nations, as far diſtant from him on the globe, as, perhaps, he imagines them to be, with reſpect to his ſuperior attainments as a rational creature. But,

To the truly Britiſh ſoul, whoſe eyes are fixed on every object that may affect his country; to the loyal heart which glows with warmth at the name of the honoured and illuſtrious hero of theſe pages, to him this book will afford a pleaſing entertainment.

He who knows the valour and military qualifications of Sir William Johnſon, together with the importance of the Indians in North America, eſpecially the Six Nations, to us as well as to the French, will here be agreeably entertained with ſpecimens of the political talents of that victorious general, and the ſagacity of the Indians.

Whoever pretends to ſay, as ſome have fatally imagined, that the American ſavages are of little or no account to our intereſt on that continent, and that, therefore, it is not of great conſequence, whether or no we endeavour to cultivate friendſhip with them; muſt be ſo *extremely ignorant, or elſe ſo wilfully perverſe, that it would be waſting time to expoſe the abſurdity of ſuch prepoſterous ſuggeſtions.*

Hyde-park education may, undoubtedly, qualify troops for being uſeful in Flanders, or in any European field; and the arts and intrigues of French policy muſt neceſſarily be ſtudied and practiſed, when we negociate with the court of France.

But very uſeleſs, indeed, will either of thoſe arts appear, when tranſported to the banks of the Ohio, or applied to treaties with wild Indians.

That we differ from the native Americans, no leſs in our martial and political conduct and principles, than in our complexions and manners; the whole ſeries of facts, which have paſſed within theſe two years, ſufficiently evince.

Of what conſequence the life of this brave general is to the glory of his King, and to the happineſs of his fellow-ſubjects, let Lake George, let the eighth of September one thouſand ſeven hundred and fifty-five, and general Dieſkau bear witneſs! And of what farther ſervice to both he has been, and ſtill may be, in treating with the heads of powerful Indian nations, theſe ſheets will ſufficiently *ficienly convince the impartial and intelligent Reader.*

A ſhort account of the Six Nations, and of general Johnſon, it is preſumed, may not be unacceptable to many of our readers.

The firſt, I ſhall extract from the Hiſtory, written by the honourable Cadwallader Colden, preſident of his Majeſty's council and ſurveyor-general of New-York, to which the reader is referred for farther information. The laſt I ſhall give, not only from my own perſonal knowledge of that gentleman, but alſo from what I have been credibly informed of, by his intimate acquaintance in the government where he lives.

" The Five Nations conſiſt of ſo many tribes " or nations, joined together by a league or " confederacy like the united provinces, and " without any ſuperiority.——This union " has continued ſo long that we know no" thing of its original.——They are known " to us by the names of the Mohawks, Oney" does, Onondagas, Cayugas, and Senekas. " ——The Tuſkaroras, after a war they " had with the people of Carolina, fled to the " Five Nations, and are incorporated with " them; ſo that now, indeed, they properly " conſiſt of ſix nations.——Each of them

“ *is again divided into three different tribes,*
“ *who diſtinguiſh themſelves by three different*
“ *arms, viz. the Bear, the Tortoiſe, and the*
“ *Wolf; the Sachems put that, belonging to*
“ *their tribe, to every publick paper.* ——
“ *They think themſelves, by nature, ſuperior*
“ *to the reſt of mankind, and aſſume the*
“ *name of* Ongue-honwe, *that is, men ſurpaſſing*
“ *all others.—This opinion gives them*
“ *that courage, which has been ſo terrible to*
“ *all the nations of North America;* —*and*
“ *that opinion, they have taken ſuch care to impreſs*
“ *on all their neighbours, that on all occaſions,*
“ *they yield to them the moſt ſubmiſſive*
“ *obedience.*—— *They have ſuch abſolute*
“ *notions of liberty, that they allow of no kind*
“ *of ſuperiority, and baniſh all ſervitude from*
“ *their territories.*—— *All the nations round*
“ *them have, for many years, entirely ſubmitted*
“ *to them, and pay a yearly tribute*
“ *to them in Wampum* [*]; *they dare neither*

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[*] “ Wampum is the current money among the Indians: it
“ is of two ſorts, white and purple; the white is worked
“ out of the inſide of the great conques, into the form of
“ a bead, and perforated, to ſtring on leather; the purple [†]
“ is worked out of the inſide of the muſcle ſhell; they
“ are wove as broad as one's hand, and about two feet long;

“ theſe

[†] As the Indians live far from the ſea, our people make and ſell theſe, or exchange them for beaver ſkins, &c. and many, at Albany particularly, make a handſome living by that trade.

make peace or war without the conſent of the Mohawks: two old men commonly go about every year or two, to receive this tribute; and I have often obſerved, what anxiety the poor Indians were under, while theſe two old men remained among them. An old Mohawk Sachem, in a poor blanket and dirty ſhirt, iſſues his orders, with as arbitrary an authority as a Roman dictator.——The authority of their Sachems, who govern in all publick affairs, as well as that of their leaders and captains, conſiſts wholly, and is only obtained by the good opinion the nation have of the wiſdom and integrity of the former, and of the courage and conduct of the latter; and they loſe it by a failure in thoſe virtues.

" *Their inſtruments of war are muſkets, hatchets, and long ſharp-pointed knives; theſe they always carry about with them. The hatchet, in war time, they ſtick in their girdle behind; and they have the art of directing and regulating its motion, ſo, that though it turns round as it flies, the*

" *edge*

" theſe they call belts, and give and receive at their treaties, as the ſeals of friendſhip; for leſſer matters, a ſingle ſtring is given. Every bead is of a known value, and a belt of a leſs number is made to equal one of a greater, by ſo many as are wanting, faſtened to the belt by a ſtring."

" *edge always ſticks in the tree, near the*
" *place they aim at.——The uſe of bows and*
" *arrows is now entirely laid aſide, except*
" *among the boys.—Their caſtles* [or towns]
" *are generally a ſquare ſurrounded with*
" *palliſadoes, without any baſtions or out-*
" *works——They expreſs peace by the meta-*
" *phors of a tree and fire, and all Indians*
" *make uſe of a hatchet or * ax, as an em-*
" *blem of war."*

Sir William Johnſon, Bart. was born in Ireland, and is nephew of the late Sir Peter Warren. His uncle, while captain of a twenty gun ſhip of war, ſtationed at New-York, the year I cannot aſcertain, married a lady, a native of that city. Soon after, he purchaſed large tracts of land in that colony, and ſent to Ireland for his ſaid nephew, then about ſeventeen or eighteen years of age, whom he put in poſſeſſion of a conſiderable part of it, lying contiguous to the Mohawk country. By a conſtant reſidence there † ever ſince,

---

* We are at a loſs to account for the expreſſion in the 23d page, of its being "fix'd in their heads."

† There he learned the Mohawk language. This I aſſert, from hearing him often converſe in it, with great facility; and yet we find, when he appears at theſe ſolemnities, to treat with them on behalf of his King, they conſider him as an Engliſhman, ignorant of their language; converſing all along by an interpreter.

and by purſuing, with indefatigable induſtry, every prudent meaſure, that occurred, he has many years ſince improved wild, woody lands into plentiful rich farms; thereby has had the pleaſure of living in a neighbourhood of wealthy farmers and induſtrious tradeſmen, all his own tenants; who were firſt invited thither by him, and from the loweſt circumſtances, have arrived to what they are, by the liberality of his purſe, and the wiſdom of his inſtructions.

Beſides the attention his eſtate demanded, which muſt have been conſiderable, he, till very * *lately, traded largely as a merchant with his Indian neighbours, and more eſpecially with our Indian traders, who go every ſpring from Albany, and other parts, to Oſwego; where multitudes of Indians from diſtant regions aſſemble, and barter beaver ſkins, &c. for European commodities. Theſe the principal traders uſed to take from Sir William's ſtore, on credit, as they paſſed by his door in their boats on the Mohawk river, in their way to Oſwego; and pay for them on their return, the enſuing fall, in the goods they got in exchange.*

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* See one of his ſpeeches to the Kanuſkado Indians in page 54, where we learn "he has no goods of his own to "ſell."

As our trade with the Indians is of great advantage to us, and had in him one of its principal ſupports, I ſhould with much regret have heard of his declining buſineſs, had I not known, that the perfidy and ambition of a reſtleſs and dangerous neighbour, and the good of his country called him to action in a nobler ſphere. Few merchants had faith like him, to truſt large effects in the hands of young, raw and unexperienced men, whom he choſe to encourage for their induſtry; indeed few could, none having ſuch a capital, nor any in the country ſo large an aſſortment: add to this, that his houſe, very properly called Fort Johnſon, is ſituated above 30 miles back from Albany by land, a great way farther by water; which conſiderably leſſened the expence, trouble and time of the traders, and conſequently enabled them to deal to better advantage. But what rendered him of yet more utility, in this reſpect, was, that in all his tranſactions he ever acted with ſo much openneſs and integrity, that thoſe who once dealt with him thought themſelves happy in improving the correſpondence.

For many years he has been colonel of militia in the county of Albany; and about ſix years ago he was appointed one of his Majeſty's honourable Council of the province of

New York; *thence is he ſtiled* the Honourable *in this book. He is turned of forty years of age, of ſtature near ſix feet, of a moſt comely aſpect, and is every way well form'd for the moſt manly exerciſes. Notwithſtanding what I have ſaid of him, ſhould I be aſked, Whether he has any enemies in the circle of his acquaintance? I would anſwer, What is the natural, the unavoidable conſequence of merit? is it not to be envied?*

The reader will find, that the conferences are not inſerted in order of time; if that be a fault, it ſhould not be charged to our account; the whole being exactly printed from our original, and from which, we apprehend, we were not at liberty to depart. The notes, except one in page 37, *and another in page* 45, *are by*

THE EDITOR.

A
VOCABULARY
OF

Some Words and Names uſed by the French *Authors, who treat of the* Indian *Affairs, which are different from the Names of the ſame People or Place, uſed or underſtood by the* Engliſh, *and may therefore be uſeful to thoſe who intend to read the* French *Accounts, or compare them with the Accounts now publiſhed.* (Colden.)

Names uſed by the French.	*The ſame called by the* Engliſh, *or* Five Nations.
Abenaguies.	Owenagungas, *or* New-England Indians, *and are ſometimes called the* Eaſtern Indians.
Algonkins.	Adirondacks.
Amihouis.	Dionondadies, *or* Tuinondadeks, *a Branch or Tribe of the* Quatoghies.
Amiez.	Mohawks, *called likewiſe* Maquas.
Bay des puans.	Enitajiche.
Chigagou.	Caneraghik.
Corlaer, or Corlard.	Schenectady. *But the* Five Nations

Names uſed by the French.	*The ſame called by the* Engliſh, *or* Five Nations.
	Nations *commonly call the Governor of* New York *by this Name, and often the People of the Province of* New York *in general.*
Detroit.	Teuchſagrondie.
Hurons.	Quatoghie.
Hinois.	Chictaghicks.
Iroquois.	*The* Five Nations.
Dac huron,	Caniatare, *or* Quatoghe lake
Loups.	Scahkook Indians.
Manhattan.	New York City.
Maſcoutecs.	Odiſlaſtagheks.
Mourigan.	Mahikander, *or* River Indians, *living on* Hudſon's *River below* Albany.
Miamies.	Twightwies.
Miſſilimakinak.	Teiodondoraghie.
Miſſiſakies.	Achſiſaghecks.
Oneyouts.	Oneydoes.
Ontario lac.	Cadarackui lake.
Orange.	Albany.
Outagamies.	Quackſies *and* Scunkſiks.
Outawas.	Utawawas, *or* Dewagunhas
Renards.	Quakſies.
Sauiteurs.	Eſtiaghicks.
Shaouonons.	Satanas.
Tateras.	Todericks.
Terre rouge.	Scunkſik.
Tongorias.	Erighecks.
Tſonontouans.	Senekas.

Fort Johnſon, Decemb. 7. 1755.

The SPEECH *of the honourable major-general Johnſon at a meeting of the Mohawks, Oneidas, Tuſcaroras and Senecas.*

Arent Stevens, interpreter.

Brethren of the Mohawks, Senecas, Oneidas, and Tuſcaroras,

I Am glad to ſee you here at the meeting-place of all the nations, after the dangers and fatigues of the campaign. The reaſon of my ſending for you immediately on my return is very preſſing.

Your brother the governor of New-York wrote me a letter, dated nine days ago, which overtook me at Skenactady, acquainting me, that the Shawaneſe, Delawares, and River-indians were committing hoſtilities in the ſouthern parts of this province, as well as in the Jerſies and Pennſylvania; that they had burnt ſeveral out-ſettlements in thoſe provinces, and killed many of our people who never offended them: as thoſe Indians are looked upon by us as allies and dependants of you the ſix nations, and living within the limits of your country, I muſt deſire you will, without loſs of time, reprimand them for what they have already done, prevent their doing any more miſchief, and inſiſt on their turning their arms with us againſt the French and their Indians; both your and our common enemy, and that without loſs of time. This is what you engaged to do at the general meeting laſt June at my houſe: I am ſurprized you have not done it before, and I expect you will now do it without loſs of time; if not, we will endeavour to put a ſtop to their barbarities, and do ourſelves that juſtice the law of nature allows.

A belt.

Brethren of the confederate nations,

I deſire you will ſend me, from time to time, what news you receive from your allies to the ſouthward and weſtward, as at all times it is very neceſſary for me to know it, and more particularly ſo at this time: in return, you may depend on my giving you all the news among us, which may be uſeful to you.

A large belt.

Their anſwer.

Brother,

We are obliged to you for the welcome you give us, and aſſure you we are equally rejoiced to meet you here at our fire, after your great fatigue and danger; and congratulate you on your ſucceſs over our common enemy.

It gives us the greateſt concern, to hear of the barbarities of our couſins the Delawares, to our brethren the Engliſh; and we aſſure you we ſhall, without loſs of time, forward your meſſage through all the nations, and uſe all arguments in our power for their exerting themſelves on this important occaſion.

A belt.

Brother,

We will alſo recommend it to them to keep up a conſtant correſpondence with you, as we are ſenſible it is of the utmoſt conſequence at all times, but more ſo at preſent.

A belt.

At a meeting of the Mohawks, Oneidas, and Tuſcaroras, December 26. 1755.

Sequareeſere, a chief of Tuſcarora, ſpoke.

Brother Warraghiyage [*],

We return you our hearty thanks for the care you take of us in ſupplying us with ammunition, large guns and paint; as we do not know how ſoon the enemy will come upon us: we have been ſpeaking to our eldeſt brothers theſe four years, about having a place of defence made againſt the French, but could never bring them to a concluſion until now, having promiſed to join and aſſiſt our brothers the Engliſh againſt any attempts which the French ſhall make upon them.

A ſtring of wampum.

Canaghquayeſon, ſpoke.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We join with our brothers, the Tuſcaroras, in returning you our hearty thanks for adviſing us to

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[*] The name given by the Mohawk-indians to general Johnſon, on his being many years ago adopted into their nation.

to be upon our guard againſt the malicious deſigns of the French, and that you would ſupply us with ammunition, large guns, paint, &c.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We own we have been loſt or drunk theſe ſeveral years paſt, in not liſtening to you and our youngeſt brothers in joining the two caſtles together; but we have now opened our ears which have been ſtopped, and are determined to live and die with you.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

You acquainted us ſome time ago, of the deſigns of the French in encroaching upon our hunting-grounds, and adviſed us to be upon our guard againſt them, or otherwiſe they would come and diſpoſſeſs and deſtroy us all; it ſeems to us now that they had blinded our eyes, and it is plain to us as the ſun that riſes in the morning, that they had it in view.

No doubt but you have heard that the French had invited us to meet them at Swegatſy; but we have taken a firm reſolution never to liſten to any but yourſelf: we don't ſpeak this from our lips only, but it comes from the bottom of our hearts.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

You blame us for not taking care of our allies to the ſouthward, but we aſſure you we have ſome time ago ſent four large belts to them, deſiring they would not join with any but whom the five nations joined; and ſince we are informed that the belts and meſſages we ſent were directly made known to the French. Now, brother, we have ſent another meſſage, deſiring that they would come and ſpeak with us; and be aſſured we will do our utmoſt endeavours to put a ſtop to any more bloodſhed that way; and we hope, that you will deſire the governors to do their utmoſt in bringing them over to us, as we are ſure there is nothing draws them from us but the large preſents which the French make them.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We have ſent to the River-indians and Shawaneſe to come to our caſtle, to hear from their own mouths what they have to ſay for their killing ſo many of our brothers; and if they ſhould not come upon our meſſage, we the Oneidas, and Tuſcaroras Sachems, are determined to go to them and know the reaſon of it.

Governor Shirley promiſed to have a fort built for us, and men to garriſon it; and not hearing any thing about it ſince, we think he will defer it until ſpring; ſo hope that you will have a fort built immediately, and men to garriſon it, as we are certain the French only wait a favourable opportunity to fall upon us.

A ſtring.

My * anſwer made February 17. 1756.

Arent Stevens, interpreter.

Brethern of Tuſcarora,

I received the friendly ſpeech which you made at my houſe when I was at New-York, together with your acknowledgments for the arms, ammunition, &c. I gave your nation; I heartily wiſh they may anſwer the end they were deſigned for, which was to enable you to ſecure yourſelves againſt

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* Viz. general Johnſon.

againſt any attempts of the French, or any other enemy. I highly approve of your wiſdom and timely advice to your elder brothers the Oneidas, and am extremely glad that you and they have at laſt agreed to build a place of defence, and to join your brethren the Engliſh againſt any attempts of your and our common enemy the French.

A belt.

Brethren of Oneida.

It highly pleaſes me to find you ſo grateful for the advice I have given you, and the aſſiſtance I promiſed you ſhould have, as well as your brethren the Tuſcaroras; and I expect you and they, together with the Skaniadaradighronos, will live ſo compact, and have your caſtle fortified in ſuch a manner, as may enable you to make a bold defence, ſhould any attempts be made againſt you.

If you do this, and have a good officer with a party of men there, nothing can hurt you.

A belt.

Brethren,

Nothing can give me greater ſatisfaction, than to find you have at laſt come to your ſenſes, and to the uſe of your hearing, of which you have acknowledged to have been bereft ſome time.

As I have a great regard for you, I moſt ſincerely wiſh you may continue in your ſenſes, that you may follow the wholeſome advice which your brother the Tuſcarora, although younger, has given you, and that which I ſhall from time to time give you.

Brethren,

Had you been in your right ſenſes, and your eyes open when I timely acquainted you with the deſigns of the French encroaching on your hunting-grounds, and deſtroying you, and had followed my advice, the French would not have been now in poſſeſſion of the beſt part of your country, and bid you defiance as they now do.

Shake away then that infatuation, which has ſo long had the better of you, and exert yourſelves now in conjunction with your Father the King's troops, and you may ſtill recover your lands and be a happy people, which is the ſincere wiſh of your Father and all your brethren.

Your not complying with the governor of Canada's invitation to meet him at Swegatſy, was quite right; and I am glad you have taken ſo firm a reſolution of adhering to your engagements: had you acted otherwiſe, it would have been a breach of the many ſolemn promiſes you have made to me on that head.

A belt.

Brethren of Oneida and Tuſcarora,

I am heartily pleaſed to hear from you, that you have not been ſo remiſs as I imagined, with regard to the Delawares and Shawaneſe; and that you are determined to have a conference with them. I muſt preſs you in the moſt ſtrenuous manner to exert your authority at ſaid meeting, and let me know the reſult thereof as ſoon as poſſible.

A belt.

Brethren,

I heard general Shirley ſay, that he had ordered a fort to be built for you ſome time ago: why his orders have not been complied with I cannot ſay; but this I may venture to affirm, it was not his fault: however, as you now deſire it may be built, I will order proper perſons to go about it as ſoon as poſſible.

A belt.

Ended.

Copy of a letter of the Rev. Mr. Hawley at Onehughquagey, to the honourable William Johnſon, dated Onehughquagey, December 27. 1755.

Very honoured Sir,

The Sachems who went from hence with your meſſage to the Delawares, juſt now returned from Tiaogo, and deſire me to pen the following letter to your honour; in which you have a brief account how the quarrel between the Engliſh and Delawares began, and what has happened ſince, according to the account which we have from Tiaogo. In which alſo your honour has the anſwer of the Delawares to the meſſage you ſent them by the bearer hereof, and a ſhort ſpeech which thoſe Indians deſired me to pen relative to the affairs. Your honour will pardon me if I am not ſo particular in my narration as the Indians are in telling a ſtory. The letter which I am deſired to write, except abbreviations, is as follows:

Brother Johnſon,

We have been to Tiaogo upon your affairs. In the firſt place we relate what news we hear; the Indians there inform us that about two months ago, there was a party of Engliſh at Tſineanke, alias Shamokin, upon a ſcouting deſign; and that while they were there, news came that there was a party of French and Indians from Ohio about there; and Skaronyade adviſed the Engliſh party to return back, and by all means to keep on the eaſt-ſide of the river: they took his advice, 'tis ſaid, and returned, but went the weſt-ſide of the river, and that before they had gone far a French party came upon them, fired, and drove them into the river, where four of the Engliſh were drowned. Not long after this, that an Engliſhman came to Skahandow-ane alias Wayoming, and as he uſed to trade upon this river, the Indians aſked him whether he brought any goods with him; he ſaid no, but I have brought my body, my fleſh, and you may do what you pleaſe with me: 'tis you, ſaid he, and the ſix nations, who killed our people the other day, I was there, I know your language, it was certainly you that did the miſchief; and now, ſaid he, you and the Engliſh will fight; may be you think that you and your uncle the ſix nations are able to ſtand the Engliſh: I tell you, ſaid he, that we can pinch you between our fingers; I don't cheat you, and act in the dark and underhanded, as you do, but tell you plainly that the Engliſh are going to fight you: in ſix days more the Engliſh will ſet out from all points againſt you. The Engliſhman returned to the white people, and informed them that a great multitude of Indians of all nations were gathered at Wayoming, &c. Then the Engliſh that way made it their buſineſs to take as many of the Delawares who lived among, or near the white people, and made them priſoners, as they could lay hands on; the number they took, 'tis ſaid, is 232 in all; one old man they took, who heard the account which the Engliſhman brought from Wayoming, made his eſcape with much difficulty, and carried the news back to Wayoming, and gave an account of the Engliſh taking the Delawares who lived near the white people, &c. &c.

The Indians of Wayoming, 'tis ſaid, were much concern'd after the Engliſhman had been there, and kept ſcouts out to ſee if any Engliſh were coming againſt them; at laſt they ſaw a ſingle man coming, the Indians went to the white man, and aſked him whether he was alone; he told them, that three more, who were gentlemen, were coming to have a treaty with them: they ſoon arrived, and called the Indians together, and informed them that they were ſent to treat with them about building a fort there, that their ſquas and children might be protected from the French. The Indians deſired to ſee their commiſſion, they produced a certificate of it in writing; the Indians objected againſt their not having wampum; with that they produced another paper. Now the old man, who had been taken by the Engliſh, and made his eſcape, ſaid to the Indians, don't you believe theſe men, they only mean to deceive you, and make you priſoners, or put you to the ſword.

At that the Indians took their hatchets, and knocked them all on the head, except the Indian trader, who came there before, and was now with theſe gentlemen that made his eſcape.

Thus, brother Johnſon, we have given you an account how the quarrel began between the Engliſh and Delawares, and what has happened ſince; and if they have told us a pack of lyes, we cannot help it.

Now, my brother, we give you the anſwer of the Delawares to the meſſage you ſent by the bearer; this is the anſwer our nephew gives.

Brother Johnſon,

We deſire to know what is the reaſon of the quarrel between us and our brethren the Engliſh; you ſay you are ignorant of it, ſo are we; we don't know the cauſe of this quarrel.

'Tis true, brother, as you ſay, we are not at our own command, but under the direction of the ſix nations; we are women, our uncle muſt ſay what we muſt do; he has the hatchet, and we muſt do as he ſays. 'Tis true, brother, we have not the hatchet, we are poor women, and out of temper: we are much obliged to you, brother, that you tell us to ſtop, and leave off that which we have begun to do; we hear you, we ſtop and repent.

But, brother Johnſon, ſome of our young men, a few days ago, went out againſt the Engliſh; we can't help it, though we have ſent after them as ſoon as we heard from you, brother, to ſtop them, and call them back. Now, brother, you muſt take care of your ſide too; many of our people are now captives among the Engliſh, we muſt ſee every one of them return again, or elſe it will not be well. We ſhall wait two months to ſee whether our captives are given up, and if we don't ſee them then, we don't know what we ſhall do; when we ſee our people again, then we ſhall contrive to make up the matter, and ſettle affairs, and not till then.

Thus, brother Johnſon, you have the anſwer of my nephew to your meſſage.

Now, brother, we that are young ones here would ſay a few words; by and by you ſhall hear from our heads; we aſk leave for once, according to the Engliſh cuſtom, to uſe paper inſtead of wampum.

Brother

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Brother Johnſon,

Be ſtrong, do all you can on your part, and we will do all we can on ours: let us, both of us, be engaged to purſue to the things that make for peace and harmony; you'll not doubt brother, but that the ſix nations will make it their buſineſs to ſet things to right again, and make up the unhappy quarrel between our brethren the Engliſh and the Delawares our nephews.

Be ſtrong, brother, be engaged and we will aſſiſt you, and we need not doubt but we ſhall gain the point.

We would inform you, brother, that the Delawares tell us that two companies of their men ſet out not long ago againſt the Engliſh; but they have now ſent after them to bring them back. They ſay that there were 80 in one and 40 in the other company; and that a number are ſet out from Ohio lately againſt the Engliſh frontiers.

Thus, honoured Sir, I have wrote all that the Indians deſired, I have wrote in haſte, and not correct as I might, had I had leiſure; the Indians from Tiaogo arrived juſt at ſun-ſet, and the bearer deſigning to ſet out early in the morning, I muſt ſend this rough account juſt as it is, I rely on your honour's candour.

If I can ſerve your honour in any thing in your public affairs, I am yours at command,

Gidn. Hawley.

P. S. I propoſe to your honour's conſideration, whether it would be well for the Engliſh to build a fort and keep a garriſon. I don't at all think that the Delawares deſign to be peaceable; a fort here perhaps will be neceſſary to keep the reſt of the Indians on the river in good order.

To the honourable William Johnſon.

Fort Johnſon, February 29, 1756.

*At a meeting of the Aughquageys, Tuſcaroras, Skaniadaradighronos, Chughnuts, Mahickanders and Shawaneſe, Thomas their ſpeaker ſtood up and went through the ceremony of condolance for the loſs of my ſiſter and brother-in-law**, *and then proceeded as follows:*

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We will now open our hearts to you, and throw off the burthen which lays ſo heavy upon us; it grieved us much to hear it was ſuggeſted, that all the nations living upon the banks of Suſquehanna, even as far as Aughquagey had joined the French. We aſſure you it is a falſe report, and we appeal to you, brother, whether we have not (ſince your acquaintance with us) always proved true brethren to the Engliſh, and ſtrictly adhered to the agreements made ſo long ago between them and our fore-fathers; and depend upon it we ever ſhall, notwithſtanding all the temptations of the French. What we now ſay comes not from our lips only, but from the very bottom of our hearts.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We ſpeak now in behalf of the Oneidas, Tuſcaroras, Skaniadaradighronos and Chugnuts; and we may ſay we ſpeak alſo in behalf of the Shawaneſe, who are now upon their way to Chugnut, where they are to ſettle and live under our protection; alſo the Delaware-indians, who live upon the eaſt branch of that river near the head of it, have given us the ſtrongeſt aſſurances, that they will live and die with us, and in conſequence of that will keep up the ſame friendſhip and alliance with the Engliſh, which now ſubſiſts between us and them; and this belt we hereby deliver to you as a teſtimony thereof.

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* Capt. Ferrall, his ſiſter's huſband, killed in the battle at Lake-George, September 7, 1755. Vide General Johnſon's letter in London Gazette, 28 October 1755.

Gave the belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We beg leave to lay our immediate danger and diſtreſs before you; we are now entirely expoſed to the mercileſs power of the French and their Indians, our and your common enemy; their hatchet is ready to fall upon our heads, their Indians who live not far from us, threaten us for our attachment to you, for they call and look upon us as Engliſh, as we truly are. Now, brother, our earneſt requeſt is, that you would build us a ſmall place of defence, wherein our old men, women, and children may have ſhelter in this time of danger; and that you would alſo ſupply us with arms, ammunition, &c. wherewith to defend ourſelves from any attempts the enemy may make upon us.

Gave a belt.

February 2, 1756.

At a meeting of the Oneidas, Tuſcaroras, Skaniadaradighronos, Chugnuts, and Mahickanders, I made an anſwer to their ſpeech in the preſence of,

The Rev. Mr. Hawely,	Mr. Daniel Clauſe,
Lieutenant Miller,	Arent Stevens,
Mr. Reed,	William Printup,
Three Interpreters,	

Canadagaye a Mohawk chief, my ſpeaker, ſtood up and anſwered to their ſpeech as follows, *viz.*

Brethren of the Oneidas, Tuſcaroras, Skaniadaradighronos, Mahickanders, Chugnuts, and Shawaneſe.

I approve much of your openneſs of heart to me on this occaſion, and as that is the ſureſt way of having your grievances redreſſed, I would adviſe you (as I have often your brethren of the ſix nations) always to follow that method, and you may be aſſured I will endeavour to eaſe your minds, and do every thing in my power to contribute to your happineſs. As for the idle ſurmiſes of, or reports ſpread by any ill minded ſilly people, who know nothing of your ſentiments, or the ſtate of your or our affairs, I muſt deſire you will not give ear to, nor be in the leaſt uneaſy at them, for their words are like wind and not to be noticed. If at any time your minds are diſturbed, or that you labour under any difficulties, let me know it immediately, you may depend upon relief. The ſtrong aſſurances you now, and always have given me of your attachment to your brethren the Engliſh, and of your gathering together, gives me the greateſt pleaſure, and will animate me to take more care of you, which you may depend upon as long as you continue ſtedfaſt friends to the Engliſh, which you will ever find it your intereſt to do.

A belt.

Brethren of the ſeveral before-mentioned nations,

Your caſe I have conſidered, and agree with you in opinion, that your preſent ſituation is far from being ſafe, having ſo dangerous and deceitful an enemy, as the French are notoriouſly known to be on the one ſide, and their blindfolded, raſh Indians (who know not their own intereſt) on the other. Wherefore, agreeable to your requeſt, I ſhall immediately have a fort built for the ſafety of your old people, children, and friends, living round about there; I will alſo ſupply you with arms, ammunition, &c. to defend the ſaid fort, againſt any attempts the French, or their Indians, may make upon you: keep a good look out, and if at any time you find a deſign againſt you, let me know it, and I will come immediately to your aſſiſtance. This I confirm by this belt of wampum.

A belt.

February 2, 1756.

The anſwer of the Aughquageys, Tuſcaroras, Skaniadaradighronos, Mahickanders, Chugnuts, and Shawaneſe.

Adam, ſpeaker.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We the ſeveral nations of Indians living at and about Suſquehanna river and its branches, here preſent, return you our moſt hearty thanks for your kind compliance to our requeſts, as well as for the great regard you ſhew for our ſafety, by promiſing to come in perſon to our aſſiſtance, ſhould there be occaſion at any time for it: this convincing proof of your love for us, at this critical time, lays us under the greateſt obligations; and be aſſured we and ours ſhall never forget it as long as the waters of Suſquehanna run.

A belt, and finiſhed, giving ſix ſhouts of approbation.

Friday 6th, I ſent an Indian expreſs, with a belt of wampum, to know the reaſon of the ſix nations delay.

Monday 9th, Not hearing from them yet, and all the other nations waiting here impatiently, diſpatched Jacobus Clemont, one of the interpreters, to bring them down ſpeedily.

Wedneſday 11th, Three Onondago warriors arrived at my houſe, with three ſtrings of wampum from the Sachems, acquainting me that their nations Cayougas, and Senecas, were making all the haſte poſſible, and would be here to-morrow in a body: in the afternoon the Onondagos and Cayougas arrived, and told me that fifty Senecas would be here to-morrow.

The Mohawk Sachems came to me with an expreſs from their brethren the Canajoharees, acquainting them and me, that the Oneidas and Tuſcaroras, were to be on Friday at their caſtle, in order to condole the death of the great Hendrick, and the other chiefs of that caſtle, who were ſlain at Lake George, and deſired theirs and my attendance at the ceremony; I gave them the proper belts of wampum on that occaſion, and deſired they would act for me, as I could not poſſibly attend, there being ſo many Indians at my houſe, which they readily agreed to, and ſet off.

Thurſday 12th, The Senecas arrived and told me, that the Oneidas and Tuſcaroras would not be here until Saturday or Sunday, for the abovementioned reaſon.

Friday 13th, Some more of the Senecas arrived, when I performed the neceſſary ceremony on that occaſion.

Saturday 14th, I had an expreſs ſent me by the Canajoharees, that a great number of the Oneidas, Tuſcaroras and Mohawks, were met there, and would finiſh their condolence that day, and ſet off the next; which they accordingly did: and on

Monday 16th, The Oneidas and Tuſcaroras arrived here, when I received them, and performed the uſual ceremony on that occaſion.

After that Canaghquayeſon, an Oneida Sachem, ſtood up and ſpake:

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We doubt not but you have been uneaſy at our ſtaying ſo long after our brethren of the other nation; the reaſon is this, we have been clearing up the road of our fore-fathers, as is cuſtomary among us (meaning the condoling of the loſs of ſeveral of their people, who died and were killed ſince they travelled that road before) particularly at Canajoharee, where we have loſt two great men, in whoſe ſtead or room we have appointed others. Our brethren of the other nations have paſſed by and neglected this, which we think wrong. Now we are here compleat, and beg you will be eaſy in your mind.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

Hoping we have now quieted your mind, we beg you will think and ſpeak coolly, otherwiſe it may be of ill conſequence to us, as our welfare depends greatly on your cool deliberations.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

As this is the council room, where all the affairs of the ſix nations are tranſacted; and as you told me you would keep a white wing hanging in it to ſweep it clean with, we now take this fan down, and ſweep all duſt and dirt out of it, ſo as nothing may interrupt us in our councils and deliberations.

Three ſtrings of wampum.

February 16th, 1756.

My anſwer to the Oneidas and Tuſcaroras ſpeech.

Brethren,

On your arrival yeſterday you expreſſed your concern, leſt I might be uneaſy at your ſtaying ſo much longer than the reſt of your brethren, and than the time appointed. The reaſons you have given for it are a ſufficient apology; I am very glad you have done every thing neceſſary on your part, agreeable to your cuſtoms, and the rules laid down to you by your wiſe anceſtors. So many of you appearing here now at this council, and at ſo bad a ſeaſon of the year, gives me great pleaſure, as it plainly demonſtrates your regard to my invitation.

A belt.

Brethren,

I thank you for the prudent and kind ſteps you have taken to quiet my mind at this time; I aſſure you it is quite ſettled, and my thoughts fixed upon nothing ſo much, as what may tend to your welfare, and that of all your brethren in general.

A belt.

Brethren,

I have had this council room (on my inviting you and the reſt of the nations to it) well cleanſed; but as you imagined it might have (by your ſtaying ſo much longer than the time appointed for meeting) gathered ſome duſt; I am glad you have taken down the fan, and ſwept it ſo, that nothing might in the leaſt impede our conſultations.

Three ſtrings of wampum.

Ended this affair.

At a private meeting of the upper Mohawk caſtle, Wedneſday the 18th.

PRESENT all the ſachems and warriors,

Abraham, Hendrick's brother, ſtood up and ſpoke.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We return you our hearty thanks, for the care you have taken in fortifying our caſtle laſt ſummer, agreeable to our deſire, and alſo of garriſoning it in our abſence, for the ſecurity of our old people and children. And as we look upon it as neceſſary now as ever (from the many reports we daily have, of the French's intentions of attacking us for our attachment to you) we earneſtly deſire there may be an officer, and a proper number of men, poſted there, as ſoon as poſſible for our defence.

A belt.

Brethren of Canajoharee,

As I am fully convinced of your ſincerity and attachment to his Majeſty's intereſt, I readily comply with your requeſt, not doubting it will be very agreeable to your Father the great king, who has nothing more at heart than the ſafety and welfare of you his faithful children; as an aſſurance of what I ſay, and now promiſe to you, I give you this belt of wampum.

A belt.

So this meeting ended.

At a meeting of five hundred and eighty-ſix of the ſix nations and their allies, at Fort Johnſon, February the 18th 1756.

PRESENT,

The honourable William Johnſon, ſole ſuperintendant of their Affairs,
The Rev. Dr. Ogilvie*,
The Rev. Mr. Hawley,
Capt. Beckwith,
Lieut. Miller,
Lieut. Dunbar,
Lieut. Pottinger,
Lieut. Mills ‡,
Lieut. Lottridge,
Capt. Butler §, and other Indian officers,
Several gentlemen,
The deputy ſecretary,
And four interpreters,

I, (*viz. Gen. Johnſon*) ſpoke as follows:

Brethren of the ſix united nations,

I have heard with great concern that a war-party of the Senecas, the moſt remote nation of the confederacy, have had a conſiderable miſunderſtanding with their brethren the Engliſh to the ſouthward, which has been fatal to ſome of that nation. I am extremely unable to expreſs my concern for that unhappy affair; and as the hatchet remains fixed in your heads, I do with the greateſt affection and tenderneſs remove it thence.

A belt.

Brethren,

With this belt I cleanſe and purify the beds of thoſe who fell in that unfortunate affair, from the defilement they have contracted.

A belt.

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* Miſſionary, ſtationed among the Mohawks. ‡ A brave Engliſh-man, Lieutenant of the independant companies in the province of New-York. § An Iriſh gentleman, in the ſame rank with Mills, and has reſided among the Mohawks above 20 years.

Brethren,

I am informed that upon that unhappy occaſion you have loſt three of your principal warriors; I do with this belt cover their dead bodies, that they may not offend our ſight any more, and bury the whole affair in eternal oblivion.

A belt.

Brethren,

I have now agreeable to your antient cuſtoms ſcattered thoſe clouds that looked with ſo dark and threatning an aſpect; the ſun now ſhines bright again, therefore let us under its enlightning and cheriſhing influences, proceed upon our important buſineſs, with our uſual chearfulneſs and unanimity. A belt.

The remaining part of the ceremony of condolence, jointly in the name of General Johnſon and Governor Morris, whom Skaronyade the half king, and Mr. Montour, repreſented.

Brethren of the Cayougas and Toderighronos,

By conſtant experience we diſcover, that the life of man is as the flower of the field; in this tranſitory ſcene, therefore, reſignation becomes us under the loſs of our neareſt and deareſt friends: comfort yourſelves, therefore, under the loſſes you have ſuſtained, as becomes reaſonable creatures. With this belt I cover all your dead, that they may no more offend your ſight. A belt.

Brethren of the Onondagas, Oneidas, Tuſcaroras, Skaniadaradighronos, Aughquageys, and the Mohawks of both caſtles,

I perform the ſame ceremony to you. After the ceremony, ſix French priſoners, ſome of thoſe who were taken at the late battle, near Lake George, were delivered with great ceremony to the Indians, in order to replace the following Indians, who were killed in that battle, viz. Tayanoga, alias Hendrick Tarraghiyoris; Waniacoone of Canajoharee; Skahyowio Onienkoto of the Mohawks; Nica-anawa Skaronyade's ſon; and Cayadanora, a Tuſcarora.

They received the priſoners with the greateſt marks of gratitude and ſatisfaction; every nation giving the ſhout of approbation, and then carried off the priſoners to their reſpective families.

Thus ended the ceremony neceſſary on thoſe occaſions, agreeable to their cuſtoms.

The anſwer of the ſix nations and their allies, February 17th 1756.

Read Head, ſpeaker.

PRESENT,

The hon. William Johnſon,
The Rev. Dr. Ogilvie,
The Rev. Mr. Hawley,
Lieut. Miller,
Lieut. Dunbar,
Capt. Butler, and other Indian officers;
Three interpreters.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We the ſachems and warriors of the Seneca nation, return you our ſincere and hearty thanks, for the great affection in drying our tears, and driving ſorrow from our hearts; and we in return perform the ſame ceremony to you with the like hearty affection.

A ſtring of wampum.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are ſenſible of your goodneſs, expreſſed to us in removing the cauſe of our grief, and tenderly taking the ax out of our heads. A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are thankful to you for cleaning the blood out of our ſight, agreeable to the antient cuſtom of our foreſathers.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are thankful likewiſe for covering the graves of thoſe who were ſlain in that unhapyy affair.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We acknowledge your goodneſs in thus ſettling our minds, which were ſo much diſcompoſed, and that you have ſo ſeaſonably reminded us of that harmony, that has always ſubſiſted between our fore-fathers and our brethren the Engliſh, an account of which has been handed down to us by tradition, from father to ſon. We promiſe due attention to your advice, which we are convinced tends to our welfare; and aſſure you, that we bury that unfortunate affair in eternal oblivion.

A belt.

The Cayougas and Toderighronos, return their hearty thanks to the General, for his affectionate and public condolence, with a belt.

A belt.

The Onondagas acknowledge the ſame with a belt.

A belt.

The Oneidas do the ſame.

A belt.

The Tuſcaroras and Skaniadaradighronos the ſame.

A belt.

The two caſtles of the Mohawks the ſame.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

The ſix united nations, as one body, do with the greateſt thankfulneſs acknowledge your brotherly affection, in thus effectually cleanſing and puriſying all our habitations from all the blood and defilement, which they had contracted by the death of ſo many of our principal men.

A belt.

The ſpeaker then took up a large belt, which the general gave, with an emblem of the ſix nations joined hand in hand with us, and ſpoke as follows:

Brother Warraghiyagey,

Look with attention on this belt, and remember the ſolemn and mutual engagements we entered into, when you firſt took upon you the management of our affairs; be aſſured, we look upon them as ſacred, and ſhall, on our parts, punctually perform them as long as we are a people.

A prodigious large belt.

The ſpeaker then took up another very large belt, which was given them by the governor of New York ſome years ago.

He then repeated the ſolemn promiſes, that were then made them by the repreſentatives of all the governments then preſent, and ſaid,

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We hope our brethren the Engliſh will ſeriouſly remember the promiſe made us by this belt, and exactly perform them; and we promiſe to do the ſame, though we have no records but our memories.

A very large belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

As you, and the governor of Philadelphia, have aſked us, what reaſon we can poſſibly aſſign for the barbarous behaviour of our nephews the Delawares; all we can ſay at preſent is, that they are deluded by the craft and ſubtilty of our old and perfidious enemy the French; but we promiſe on our part, we will try all means to ſtop their proceeding further in their hoſtilities, and beg you will do the ſame.

Three ſtrings of wampum.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We earneſtly entreat, that you will immediately acquaint all the governors concerned, that we the ſix nations have not been inattentive to this important affair, but have already ſent ſome of our people to take the hatchet out of the hands of our nephews the Delawares; and we ſhould be glad that you would draw your troops from the frontiers; then we will endeavour to bring our nephews the Delawares to deliver up all the priſoners they have taken from their brethren the Engliſh, and to make the beſt acknowledgment in their power for their baſe and treacherous behaviour.

A belt.

Brethern of the ſix nations,

I am extremely pleaſed with your kind and friendly acknowledgments of my public condolence yeſterday. And as all cauſes of uneaſineſs to either of us are now removed, I propoſe tomorrow to deliver you a ſpeech relative to our preſent circumſtances, which I hope you will be properly prepared to hear.

Ended.

February 19, 1756.

At a meeting of ſeveral principal warriors, from the moſt remote parts of the Seneca's country, who never came down before to any meeting, the chief man named Kayandagaron, alias Kendorondy, ſpoke as follows:

Brother Warraghiyagey,

I, with my party of warriors from Canuſkako, the door of the ſix nations, embrace this firſt opportunity of ſhaking you by the hand, and of aſſuring you, that nothing but my regard for you, and my deſire of hearing your ſentiments from your own mouth, could have induced me, and my young men, to take ſuch a journey at this time of the year, as we had ſeveral of our ſachems attending at the meeting. We are now here at the fire-place of all the nations, and aſſure you we are heartily glad to ſee you.

Brethren of Canuſkako.

As I have nothing more at heart than the welfare of the ſix nations, and their allies, it always gives me the moſt ſenſible pleaſure to ſee, or even to hear from any of them, and more eſpecially you, whom I never ſaw before, as it affords me an opportunity of commencing that acquaintance and friendſhip with you, which is natural among brethren, and which my inclination will always lead me to improve, eſpecially with ſo brave a people as your nation has always been deemed.

Here I ended.

February 20. 1756.

PRESENT at the following public ſpeech

The hon. William Johnſon, ſole ſuperintendant of their affairs,
The Rev. Dr. Ogilvie,
The Rev. Mr. Hawley,
Capt. Beckwith,
Lieut. Miller,
Lieut. Dunbar,
Lieut. Pottinger,
Lieut. Lee,
Lieut. Kennedy,
Lieut. Mills,
Enſign Penington,
Several Indian officers, and other gentlemen,
Three interpreters.

Brethren of the ſix united nations, your allies and dependants,

It always gives me the moſt ſolid pleaſure to meet you here, that we may felicitate ourſelves in the cheriſhing warmth and light of that fire, kindled here for our mutual good; may it ever burn bright as the ſun that illuminates and guides the day, that you and your poſterity, to the lateſt generations, may rejoice in its benevolent influence!

A belt.

Brethren,

It gives me a particular ſatisfaction to meet you here at this time, for two important reaſons. The firſt is, that it affords us an opportunity of a friendly interview under the ſhade of that tree, which was lately ſo ſolemnly and judiciouſly planted; and of calmly conſulting and maturely deliberating matters of the utmoſt conſequence, and which nearly concerns our mutual ſafety, welfare and honour.

A belt.

The ſecond is, that it gives me an opportunity of ſhaking you by the hand with a brotherly affection, and in the name of the great King your Father, congratulating you upon our late happy ſucceſs, which I make no doubt muſt give you the moſt ſenſible pleaſure; and I flatter myſelf from your late repeated proteſtations of fidelity to your brethren the Engliſh, it will prove a means of animating you, and all your faithful allies, to ſtand forth with your uſual bravery upon all future occaſions.

A belt.

How much greater might our ſucceſs have been! how much more ſenſibly would it have been felt by our treacherous and common enemy, had more of your warriors appeared in the field on that important day, had all our force been united? If the bubbling or drops of our war-kettle did ſo much, how great would have been the conſequence, had it boiled with its uſual fury! It would, like a mighty torrent, carried all before it; and it would have ſounded the fame of our victorious arms far and near, and ſpread univerſal terror all around us!

I, now, in the name of the great King your Father, in this public manner return you thanks for joining our arms laſt ſummer, and for your gallant behaviour in that Action. This gives him reaſon to expect the like fidelity and courageous conduct from you all for the future, and greatly endears you to him, and to all his loving ſubjects your affectionate brethren.

A belt.

This animates me with freſh pleaſure and affection at this important conjuncture of affairs, to brighten and ſtrengthen the covenant-chain, that has ſo long linked us together, in mutual friendſhip and mutual affection, which, I hope, will continue inviolable and ſacred, as long as the ſun ſhines, or the rivers continue to water the earth, notwithſtanding all the intrigues of our old and perfidious enemies, who have left no means uneſſayed, and eſpecially at this time, to weaken and divide us, that ſo they may in the event root out the remembrance of your name and nations from the face of the earth.

A large covenant-belt.

Brethren,

On my arrival from lake George laſt December, I had from your brother the governor of New York, and ſince from the governor of Pennſylvania, the ſhocking news of (your nephews) the Delawares and Shawaneſe falling upon your brethren of Pennſylvania, Maryland and Virginia in the moſt cruel and treacherous manner, killing and barbarouſly butchering the innocent defenceleſs people, who lived on the frontiers of the ſaid governments; burning and deſtroying all they had, and that without any juſt cauſe or reaſon, as I underſtand. This I communicated to you by one of your own people, a Seneca, with a belt of wampum, deſiring you would, without loſs of time, put a ſtop to your nephews ſpilling any more of your brethrens blood; and that you would enquire into, and let me know the reaſon of ſuch their wicked and unparalleled behaviour to the King's ſubjects, your brethren and friends. I now repeat the ſame, and expect to hear what you have done in conſequence of ſaid meſſage and deſire.

Brethren, I tell you with concern, that I plainly foreſee, unleſs you, the ſix nations, who have always maintained a ſuperiority over the Indians, will now exert yourſelves in this caſe; you will not only loſe that authority which they hitherto acknowledged, but will have them your enemies.

A large black belt.

Brethren,

I told you before the governor of Pennſylvania had acquainted me with the baſe behaviour of your nephews the Shawaneſe and Delawares, and has alſo ſent your friend Skaronyade and Andrew Montour to you with his meſſage, and to know your ſentiments thereon: I deſire and expect you will pay a juſt regard to his meſſage, and afford him all the aſſiſtance you can, in bringing that unhappy affair to as good an iſſue as poſſible.

A belt.

Brethren,

I am now to acquaint you, that the great King of England, your Father, on the death of the late general Braddock, has committed the command of all his forces raiſed, and to be raiſed upon the continent of North America, to general Shirley; and has in a particular manner commanded him to protect your country, and the lands which your forefathers have conquered, and are of right your territories, againſt all violence and attempts of the French our common enemy; and to cultivate a ſtrict friendſhip between him and you; he takes the firſt opportunity of communicating this to you by me, and of aſſuring you of his intentions, fully to follow his majeſty's inſtructions herein.

A belt of black wampum.

Brethren,

General Shirley alſo deſires me to acquaint you, that he is to have a great army this enſuing ſpring for the defence of your country, and the recovery of ſuch parts of it as have been encroached upon by the French; and that in the mean time his majeſty's troops in the province of New York, ſhall be held in readineſs to defend you againſt any attempts the French may make before the opening of the campaign.

A belt.

Brethren,

On my return from New York, I received your kind meſſage and information of the deſign of the French attacking his majeſty's garriſon at Oſwego. I am extremely obliged to you for your friendly notice, which I immediately acquainted general Shirley and governor Hardy with, by expreſs from Albany, who by their anſwers to me, are alſo greatly pleaſed with you, for the concern you ſhew for our mutual ſafety; and I expect you will not only continue your vigilence, but will alſo be ready (like unalterable friends and brethren) to uſe the ax which I gave you laſt ſummer, in conjunction with his majeſty's troops, whenever called upon, either at Oſwego, or any where elſe they may be employed, to the utmoſt of your power, as it is his majeſty's intention to ſtand by you, and protect you, as well as his own ſubjects, againſt the inſults or attempts of any enemy whatever. Believe me, Brethren, this is the proper time to convince your Father, the great King of England, and your Brethren, of your ſincerity and attachment to their intereſt, by your acting vigorouſly with his troops, which I moſt heartily adviſe you to do, as it is of the utmoſt conſequence to our mutual intereſt.

A large belt.

Brethren,

I muſt now acquaint you, that I propoſe meeting you at Oſwego next ſpring, and deſire you will join with me in the invitation I ſhall ſend to your friends and allies, far and near, to come to ſaid meeting; when and where you and they ſhall receive a handſome preſent from your Father the great King of England, who is very deſirous of bringing all nations worthy of his and your alliance, into the covenant-chain at that meeting. I hope, we ſhall then be able to make ſuch an alliance, and ſettle matters in ſuch a manner, and ſo much to our mutual advantage, as will give reaſon to all concerned, and their poſterity, to bleſs that happy day we met together.

A belt.

The anſwer of the ſix nations, the 21ſt of February 1756.

Red Head, ſpeaker.

PRESENT

The hon. Will. Johnſon, Lieut. Miller,
The Rev. Dr. Ogilvie, Lieut. Dunbar,
Capt. Buckworth, Three Interpreters.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We meet you with the greateſt pleaſure at this fire-place, and heartily join you in your wiſhes, that it may burn bright to the lateſt poſterity; let us mutually endeavour to collect ſuch materials for the uſe of this our fire, as may tend to ſupport it in its full ſtrength, as long as the ſun and moon endureth.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We acknowledge that this tree was ſolemnly and judiciouſly planted for our mutual welfare, its roots reach to the remoteſt habitations of the confederacy, and its branches afford a friendly retreat to us and all our allies and dependants. Brother, take a tender care of it, ſee that it be fed plentifully by friendly ſtreams, that it may increaſe and ſpread its branches ſo far, that it may be a ſufficient ſhade, not only for us, but alſo for all other nations, which may hereafter come into our alliance.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We heartily rejoice with you upon our late ſucceſs, and aſſure you it gives us a ſolid pleaſure.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are extremely well pleaſed, that our late conduct was ſo highly acceptable to the great King our Father.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We aſſure you, that we, on our parts, do with equal pleaſure and friendſhip join with you at this time of public commotion, in brightening and ſtrengthening the covenant-chain, that has ſo long united us together. Let us mutually and ſtedfaſtly adhere to our engagements, notwithſtanding the crafty intrigues of our perfidious and blood-thirſty enemies. Let us vigorouſly endeavour to fruſtrate all their treacherous deſigns, that ſo we may reap the good effects of

this

this our union, which has long been the object of their envy. With this belt we do moſt ſolemnly renew the engagements of the antient covenant-chain.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We always look'd upon the Delawares as the more immediate care of * Onas, that they were within the circle of his arms; we are therefore of opinion, that he has not taken that friendly care of them as he ought to do, and therefore our common enemy hath taken the advantage of his neglect; for we can't but think, that if there had been proper meaſures taken, they would have ſtill continued faithful friends to the Engliſh Intereſt.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are ſenſible of the care of the great King's appointing general Shirley to ſucceed general Braddock; and we are extremely thankful for the particular inſtructions he has given him, to cultivate a ſtrict friendſhip between us and him, and to protect our lands, and recover thoſe encroached upon by our common enemy: we hope and expect, that he will ſtrictly adhere to his majeſty's inſtructions, by protecting us from the bloody incurſions of our treacherous enemies, and uſe his utmoſt endeavours to recover thoſe lands which they have clandeſtinely wreſted out of our hands.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are very thankful for the aſſurance he gives us, that the ſoldiers poſted in this pro-

vince

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* By Onas, they, here, mean governor Morris.

vince are to hold themſelves in readineſs to defend us upon any ſudden emergency; for we aſſure you, we are apprehenſive, that as the French find, that all their deluſive and wheedling arts have not had their deſired effect, they may throw off their diſguiſe, and ruſh in upon us with a voracious fury, like the wolves of the wilderneſs.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are pleaſed that the information we gave, with reſpect of the deſigns of the French againſt Oſwego, has been acceptable to you, and our brethren the Engliſh; and we promiſe, for the future, to keep up a ſtrict vigilance. The ax has been frequently put into the hands of our forefathers, by our brethren the Engliſh, and they always uſed it with the utmoſt vigour, till it was taken out of their hands. We aſſure you, that we intend, punctually, to conform to the bright and brave examples they ſet us; and we hope, this will be a ſufficient proof of our ſincerity and fidelity to the great King our Father.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

Your propoſal of taking a few embers from the fire at Onondago, to kindle a fire at Oſwego, and meeting us there this ſpring, is highly acceptable to us, as we have good reaſon to think that the light and warmth of that fire, will invite many nations to meet us there; and, we make no doubt that the things you will propoſe to their conſideration, will carry ſuch light and conviction with them, as will be ſufficient to engage them to join in our confederacy; and we promiſe, to uſe the utmoſt endeavours to accompliſh that great event; and we doubt not, but that our

children

childrens children will have reaſon to remember that happy day.

Brother, we very chearfully concur with this your propoſal, as we are convinced you will propoſe nothing but what is for our mutual intereſt.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey.

We have now opened our minds with freedom and ſincerity, and we underſtand each other clearly; let us mutually remember our engagements, which we have again ſo ſolemnly renewed; and if at any time, our enemy ſhould attack us, prove, by your readineſs to ſupport and aſſiſt us, that you really love us; and we aſſure you, we ſhall not be wanting on our parts, to give proofs of the like fidelity and friendſhip.

A belt.

At a meeting of the ſix nations, February the 23d, 1756.

PRESENT

The hon. Will. Johnſon, Capt. Butler, and other
The Rev. Dr. Ogilvie, Indian officers,
The Rev. Mr. Hawley, Three interpreters.

Brethren,

As it was very cold and late when I delivered you my ſpeech on Friday night, I told you, I would then poſtpone ſome things I had further to ſay; I now take this opportunity of communicating them to you.

In the firſt place, I muſt recommend to you, in the ſtrongeſt manner, as his majeſty's troops will be paſſing and repaſſing to Oſwego next ſpring, that you endeavour all in your power, to keep open the road thither, and not ſuffer any obſtructions or ſtoppages to be thrown in the way by the enemy, as there is the greateſt neceſſity, for our keeping that road clear and open, it being for our mutual intereſt and ſafety.

A belt.

Brethren,

Now is your time, to have forts or trading-houſes built in your countries, while your Father the great King of England has your intereſt ſo much at heart: if at any time you incline to have ſuch built in any of your caſtles, only let me know it, and it ſhall be done.

A belt.

Brethren,

Governor Hardy * deſired me to acquaint you, that he had a preſent from your Father the King for you, which he intends to deliver to you here, as ſoon as poſſible he can, and expects your attendance.

Three ſtrings.

Brethren,

The one great end propoſed in calling you here, at this ſeaſon of the year, was, to have that affair of the Delawares and Shawaneſe ſettled; but I am ſorry to find you are not ſo hearty in the affair, as I expected you would, or as, at this important time, you ought to be; I muſt therefore urge you, moſt ſtrenuouſly, to fall upon and ſettle this affair, before you leave this place, as there is no time to be loſt; beſides, your brethren of the ſeveral governments, with impatience, wait the reſult of this meeting, on which, let me tell you, much depends.

A large belt.

Brethren,

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* Of New York.

Brethren,

It is my kind concern for your welfare, that leads me to propoſe the following advice to you. I have your happineſs very much at heart, and moſt zealouſly wiſh your proſperity; therefore I conjure you, to obſerve and follow the friendly hints, I am now going to give you.

1ſt. Endeavour to bring as many nations of Indians into your alliance as poſſibly you can; and try all means, without loſs of time, to ſettle the minds of all ſuch as are wavering, and thoſe who are now ready to rebel againſt you. If you can accompliſh this, let your ſtudy be, ever after, to keep up that correſpondence, faith and friendſhip with them, which is abſolutely neceſſary between friends and allies, and without which, neither friendſhip or alliance can long ſubſiſt.

2dly. I would have you to adhere, inviolably, to all the engagements you have, or ſhall enter into, with your brethren the Engliſh; who have always been your ſteady friends, and are determined ever to continue ſuch: beſides, they are the ableſt, and will be the readieſt to protect and defend, you againſt any attempts of an enemy; and moreover, can, and will ſupply you, and all your allies, with the neceſſaries of life at a cheaper rate, than the French can.

3dly. Be not any longer wheedled, blindfolded, and impoſed on, by the artful ſpeeches of the French; for their tongues are full of deceit; do not imagine the fine cloaths, &c. they give you, are given out of love or regard to you; no, they are only as baits to catch fiſh; they mean to enſlave you thereby, and entail that curſe upon your children, after you, who will have reaſon to repent the day you begot them; be aſſured, they are your inveterate, implacable enemies, and only wiſh, for a difference to ariſe between you and us, that then they may put you out of their way, by cutting you off the face of the earth.

4thly. Fall upon a method of collecting each nation into a compact body: where you have good land, and a good ſituation, there fortify your caſtle in ſuch a manner, as you may be able to defend yourſelves, againſt any number with ſmall arms: above all things, be unanimous in your councils, and alſo in the field.

5thly. If at any time your brethren the Engliſh, or any of your Indian allies, are injured or threatened from any quarter, the whole body of the confederacy ſhould riſe, and endeavour to bring about an honourable accommodation; but if your enemy ſhould not hearken to reaſon, but ſtill perſiſt in acting unjuſtly, then the whole body ſhould, as one man, join their arms againſt the enemy; by which means, you will always be able to bring them to what terms may be thought proper: you will, in that ſtate, be a terror to the French, who now, well knowing your unſettled, divided diſpoſition, at every turn of the wind, uſe threats and menaces againſt you. Be not afraid of them; cleave to your brethren the Engliſh, and they cannot hurt you.

6thly. If you duly obſerve theſe wholeſome admonitions, you will again become numerous, and retrieve your priſtine fame. Then, the very name of the ſix nations, and their allies, will be a terror to their enemies! and their arms will carry conqueſt with them, as heretofore.

7thly. But, brethren and friends, if you continue any longer in your paſt, lethargic and ſupine ſtate, and neglect this my friendly advice, and earneſt deſire, I greatly fear you will, ſooner or later, have cauſe to repent it, and wiſh too late you had followed it. Let all your youngeſt people hear what I ſay, and your men and women ſeriouſly conſider it; and let your and their memory witneſs for me, that I have given you all this timely and wholeſome advice.

Take this pipe to your great council chamber at Onondago, let it hang there in view; and ſhould you be wavering in your minds at any time, take and ſmoke out of it, and think of my advice given with it, and you will recover and think properly.

Gave the largeſt pipe in America, made on purpoſe.

As it is now late, I ſhall deliver you the preſent I have got, made on purpoſe for you, to-morrow morning; by which time, I hope to have your definitive anſwer, to the points I now ſpoke to you upon.

Ended here.

The anſwer of the ſix nations, February 24th 1756.

Red Head, ſpeaker.

PRESENT.

The hon. William Johnſon.
The Rev. Dr. Ogilvie.
The Rev. Mr. Hawley.
Capt. Butler, and other Indian officers.
Three interpreters.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

You have very ſeaſonably put us in mind of that ſuperiority which we, by a ſeries of conqueſts, have obtained over the Delawares, Shawaneſe and others; we are ſenſible of it, and, therefore, no ſooner did you ſend us the ſhocking

ing tidings of their treacherous and barbarous behaviour, but we looked upon ourſelves nearly concerned to interpoſe; we immediately diſpatched a meſſage to them, to enquire into the cauſe of this their unparelleled conduct; we backed this with a ſecond meſſage, with equal warmth; both proving abortive, we obtained an interview by the means of our brethren of Oneida. At this meeting, we reminded them of their ſubordination, we ſhook them by the head and demanded the reaſons of their conduct; we put them in mind how contrary this behaviour was to the covenant ſubſiſting between the confederacy and the Engliſh; we told them, that our lateſt poſterity would have reaſon to curſe their action, and that it would give our brethren reaſon to ſuſpect us all of treachery, while we ſo baſely abuſe the confidence they repoſe in us; we again and again deſired they would immediately change their behaviour, at leaſt, that they would ſuſpend hoſtilities, 'till they heard from us at our return from this meeting: they ſeemed ſenſible of their fault, and promiſed they would ceaſe committing any further hoſtilities.

A ſtring of wampum.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We look upon you as one of our own body, and, therefore, as you have out of ſincere regard to our common welfare, preſſed upon us to put an effectual ſtop to the ravages and devaſtations made by our nephews the Delawares and Shawaneſe; we ſolemnly promiſe in the name of the ſachems and warriors of the five nations, that we will uſe our utmoſt endeavour, to put a ſpeedy and effectual ſtop to thoſe unhappy proceedings; and it is the firm reſolution of the whole confederacy, to conform themſelves entirely to your reaſonable requeſt in this important point; but, as the Mohawks are the head of our confederacy, we leave the management of that affair entirely to them. We ſincerely wiſh, that the great Spirit! who governs all things, may ſucceed them in this important undertaking, as it will greatly contribute to our mutual happineſs and ſtrength.

This confirmed with a large belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

The Miſſiſagas acknowledge a meſſage ſent them by General Shirley laſt year, giving them an invitation to meet him at Oſwego; they anſwer, that the ſeaſon of the year was too far advanced to admit of a meeting then; but that they promiſe to come early in the ſpring, and be attentive to what their brethren the Engliſh have to ſay.

They deſired that this ſtring might be kept at Onondago, leſt it might be intercepted by the French; for, ſhould they be acquainted with their deſign of meeting the Engliſh, they feared they would fall upon and deſtroy them.

A ſtring of wampum.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

Be attentive to what I now propoſe, they are the real ſentiments of the five nations, not meerly the ſounds of their breath, but the genuine reſolutions of their hearts. Look upon this belt* as a pledge of our inviolable attachment to you, and of our unſhaken reſolution, of joining you in all

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[*] This belt was the largeſt ever given; upon it was wrought the ſun, by way of the emblem of light, and ſome figures repreſenting the ſix nations; it was intended to ſignify, that they now ſaw objects in their proper light, and that they were fully convinced of the truth of every thing propoſed.

your meaſures: our determinations are founded upon clear conviction, as clear as that ſun that now ſhines in the firmament. We ſhall ſend this belt to the Senecas, that from thence it may be conveyed to the remoteſt nations, as an emblem of the happineſs we enjoy by our union; at the ſame time kindly inviting them to come in and join our covenant chain.

Brother, you may depend upon this as our reſolutions, which we will put into immediate execution.

What you have ſaid, in regard to the trade, we look upon as a convincing proof of your love and affection to us, and it gives us pleaſure that it now becomes a matter of ſerious conſideration with you; we are ſenſible of your ability to ſupply us with all the neceſſaries of life cheaper and better than the French can poſſibly do: indeed, brother, there is nothing you ſhould more ſeriouſly attend to, as it would greatly tend to cement that friendſhip that ſubſiſts between us, and would be the moſt likely means of bringing in the moſt remote nations to an acquaintance and union with us.

A prodigious large belt!

The general had frequently inſiſted upon knowing their reſolutions, with reſpect to the ravages committed by the Delawares, &c. This paragraph is intended as an apology, for their not making their anſwer ſooner.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

You have moſt earneſtly and frequently preſſed us to accommodate that unhappy breach, between the Delawares and our brethren the Engliſh; our delay did not proceed from any backwardneſs on our part, but from the great ſenſe we had of its importance: we hope you have received ſatisfaction upon that head, by the great belt we juſt now delivered with ſo much ſolemnity and ſincerity.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

You have acquainted us, that the great King, our Father, is firmly reſolved to defend our country, and recover ſuch parts of it, as the French have encroached upon; alſo, to protect us to the utmoſt of his power, by erecting forts for our ſafety and defence; we are grateful for this inſtance of his goodneſs; but have not yet concluded any thing with regard to the latter.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

You have informed us, that the governor of New York has a preſent for us, from the great king, our Father, we are thankful for it; but are afraid, that as it comes ſo ſoon upon the back of this meeting, it will be inconvenient for our aged people to attend; but our warriors ſhall come upon that occaſion.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

As you have given us a large pipe, to be a conſtant memorial of the important advice you have given us, when you are dead and gone, and to ſmoke out of it, at our public meeting-place, when we jointly and maturely reflect upon our engagements; we aſſure you, we ſhall hang it up in our council-chamber, and make proper uſe of it upon all occaſions; we likewiſe beg, that you on your part, will likewiſe ſeriouſly conſider your engagements, and faithfully perform them.

The general concluded with the following words:

Brethren,

I do not think you have been ſo explicit, with regard to what I propoſed to you, concerning your keeping open a clear road to Oſwego, as I could wiſh.

They made the following apology:

Brother Warraghiyagey,

With reſpect to the article relative to the keeping open the road to Oſwego, we imagined our anſwer was contained in our general reply, wherein we aſſured you, we would ſupport and aſſiſt each other, upon all occaſions; but as you did not look upon that ſufficient, we now aſſure you, that we ſhall punctually conform to your deſire, herein.

The General added:

The preſent waits your acceptance. As there has been frequent complaints, with reſpect to the diviſion of the preſents given at theſe public meetings, it is my earneſt deſire, that they may be ſo divided, as to prevent all jealouſy and complaints.

He then delivered them a very handſome publick preſent; which, together with the private gifts, to the ſeveral chiefs and ſachems, amounted to,

York currency * £. 1085 9 8 ½.

At a meeting of the ſix nations, February 26th, 1756.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

It was yeſterday agreed upon by us, that our eldeſt brother, the Mohawk, ſhould take upon him, to ſettle that unhappy affair, between the Delawares and our brethren the Engliſh; but, on more mature deliberation, having the thing ſo much at heart, we, have now, unanimouſly agreed, that ſeveral delegates, from the ſix nations, ſhould uſe their utmoſt endeavours to accommodate that difference; and, depend upon it, we ſhall loſe no time, for we ſhall immediately diſpatch a meſſage to them by the Skaniadaradighronos and Oneidas, and deſire them, to meet us at Otſineange, where the council is to be held.

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* Upwards of £. 620 ſterling.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We have, agreeable to your repeated deſire, kept a good look out, and daily watch the motions of the French; we muſt acquaint you, that they have lately ſent a meſſage to our brethren, the Cayougas, to let them know their reſolution, of attacking Oſwego, and deſiring their opinion upon it: hereupon, three of their ſachems, and ſeven of their young men, are gone to Niagara, with a deſign to forbid the French attacking Oſwego, or any Indians, they may ſee, joining them; we daily expect their return, when you ſhall immediately hear what they have done.

A belt.

Brethren of the ſix nations,

I greatly approve of the alteration you have made, in the method of accommodating that unhappy breach between the Delawares and your brethren the Engliſh, as it muſt certainly have greater weight now, as it is the act of the whole body, and the more likely to ſucceed; I look upon this, as a very conſiderable proof of the unanimity and zeal, that you have expreſſed at this preſent meeting.

A belt.

Brethren,

I muſt repeat to you, that I am extremely pleaſed at, and much obliged to you for the kind

intelligence,

intelligence, you have given me, of the deſigns of the French attacking Oſwego, and deſire you will continue that vigilance, and let me have every information you can, relative to the proceedings and motions of the French; as nothing can contribute more to the defeating all their deſigns, than our having conſtant and good intelligence. I wiſh your brethren of Cayouga, may ſucceed in their intentions, of indeavouring to prevent any Indians, they may ſee, joining the French; but as they can do nothing without their aſſiſtance, I doubt of their ſucceſs; however, it is good to try what can be done in that caſe; but be that as it will, we do not fear what the French can do, neither ſhould you, after the ſtrong and many aſſurances, we have given you, of his Majeſty's protection and friendſhip.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are now ready to return home, as all affairs, for which we came here, are ſettled to our ſatisfaction, and we hope to yours; we ſhall finiſh, with aſſuring you, we will ſtrictly act up to every thing agreed upon at this meeting, and hope you will do the ſame.

So ended the congreſs.

At a private meeting of the Oneidas nation, February 25th, 1756.

Canaghquayeſon their ſpeaker, ſpoke as follows:

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We, ſome time ago, applied to General Shirley, to have a fort built, for the ſecurity of our caſtle; we now acquaint you with our unanimous reſolution of having one, and ſhould be glad it could be accompliſhed as ſoon as poſſible, and that you will be particularly careful, in the choice of thoſe you employ in that work; and to charge them ſtrictly, by no means, to bring any ſpirituous liquor among our people, as they are very ungovernable and turbulent when intoxicated by liquor.

A ſtring of wampum.

Brethren,

As I have general orders to build forts, for the ſafety and protection of any of our brethren of the ſix nations; I do, with the greateſt chearfulneſs comply with your requeſt, and ſhall immediately employ proper perſons to that purpoſe: I am convinced it muſt be the fault of thoſe people, whom General Shirley employed, that it was not done ſooner, for he had given orders for that purpoſe ſo long ago as laſt October.

Then the Tuſcarora chief ſpoke,

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We have ſome time ſince ſet up ſtockadoes for the defence of our caſtle, as we were, and are ſtill, apprehenſive of the French acting againſt us in a hoſtile manner; we as yet want ſome block-houſes, to make it the more defenſible, and ſome ſoldiers to garriſon it, which we hope will be readily granted us; we acknowledge the receipt of the ſwivels and ammunition, you ſo ſeaſonably ſent us; for which, we return you our hearty thanks.

Brethren,

I ſhall repreſent your caſe to General Shirley, who, I doubt not, will readily grant you a ſufficient number of men to garriſon your fort; and as to the blockhouſes you deſire, when I go to Oſwego, I ſhall point out a proper ſituation for them, and then order them to be built.

At a meeting of the Kanuſkago-indians, February 25th, 1756.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We the warriors of the Kanuſkago, upon our arrival, informed you, we were come down merely to ſee you, and hear your words at this publick meeting; as we are young and unexperienced, and have never been at any meeting with the governor, we hope you will make a kind allowance, for our want of ability in ſpeaking; and we beg leave to aſſure you, that the reaſon of our never attending the meetings before, was not the want of affection to the Engliſh, but was entirely owing to our remote ſituation, which prevented a timely and proper notice.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

As goods are vaſtly dear and ordinary in our parts, upon our determination to come to this meeting, we thought proper to bring ſome ſkins and furs with us, in order to purchaſe ſome neceſſaries for ourſelves and families; and we beg you will, as a brother, direct us where we may be ſupplied with the beſt, and upon the moſt reaſonable terms.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We beg leave to aſſure you, nothing can give us more ſatisfaction than the ſpeech we heard you deliver to the ſix nations, on our arrival; as it contained nothing but what is quite right, and has a direct tendency to our welfare, we think our time well ſpent in coming down; for, if we had not, probably, we ſhould not have heard all you have ſaid, for we are convinced, from what we now heard you ſay, that our ſachems heretofore, have ſmothered the greateſt part of your former advices; and we aſſure you, we ſhall now ſpread your advice among all our people, who are conſiderably numerous.

Threw down a pack of ſkins.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

As we are warriors, we are not acquainted with the ceremonials of publick meetings, and, therefore, expreſs what we have to ſay, in a narrow compaſs; we have no more to offer at preſent, and hope, you will excuſe the trouble we have given you on this occaſion.

And ſo ended.

Brethren,

I have given attention to your words, and ſhall ſeriouſly conſider your deſire; but cannot give you an anſwer until to-morrow; I chuſe to deliberate maturely upon every thing that I ſay, becauſe my word once given, is as binding as cement to a ſtone.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We return you thanks, for your kind promiſes, of conſidering our deſire, and as we ſee you are crowded, and full of buſineſs, of more importance, we ſhall with patience wait your leiſure.

February 26th, 1756.

Brethren,

I told you laſt night, that I paid due attention to what you had ſaid, and would conſider your requeſt, and give you anſwer this day.

In

In the firſt place, I aſſure you, it gives me no ſmall pleaſure to hear, that my ſpeech was ſo agreeable to you, and that you would acquaint all your nation with the contents of it. I beg you will not fail in this particular, as it points out, what will make you a happy people, if duly attended to; which, from your unanimity and zeal at this conference, I have no reaſon to doubt. I am ſorry you have not been duly invited to former meetings, agreeable to my orders, and promiſe that for the future you ſhall have proper notice; and I hope you will be always ready to aſſiſt us, both in the council and the field, with all the chiefs and warriors of that caſtle, who ſhall be treated as friends and brethren.

Brethren,

In the next place, as I have no goods to ſell myſelf, I will take all poſſible care that you are not impoſed upon in your trade, at Schenectady. I ſhall give directions to Mr. Stevens, the interpreter, to aſſiſt you, and ſee that juſtice be done you, in every reſpect, for I have a great regard for your caſtle, and as a proof of it I preſent you with theſe goods.

Giving them at the ſame time a handſome preſent, and three ſilver gorgets to three of their principal warriors, viz. Tarrawariax, Tahononſaronwe, and Kindarundy, who was the chief.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We return you our hearty thanks, for all your kind expreſſions of affection, and love ſhewn to us at this time; and we in return aſſure you, that you may depend on our ſincerity and readineſs to ſerve you, whenever you call upon us; and you know very well, that whatever warriors promiſe, is ſacred.

Brethren,

I return you thanks for your ſincere profeſſions of friendſhip.

And ſo parted.

February 27. 1756.

At a meeting of the Onondagas.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We, the Onondagas, very readily embrace this opportunity offered us, of having a fort built for the protection of our caſtle; and upon our return home, ſhall chuſe a proper ſituation for it; as ſoon as the ſeaſon of the year will permit, we beg you will not delay to ſend proper workmen to build it. As we have for ſome time paſt had an acquaintance with lieut. Mills, we ſhould be glad to have him as our officer. And as William Printup underſtands the Indian language well, it would be agreeable to us to have him reſide with us, as a ſmith, and at the ſame time to ſerve as an interpreter between the officer and us.

Brethren,

I ſhall acquaint general Shirley with your deſire, and make no doubt he will comply with it. The fort ſhall be built with all poſſible expedition; and whatever officer is poſted in it, will no doubt have particular orders, to be careful of your ſafety, and to treat you with all the marks of affection and friendſhip.

Ended.

February

February 27. 1756.

At a meeting of the Senecas.

Takeaghſado, ſpeaker.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

Our brother, the governor of New York, was ſo good the laſt year, as to promiſe us a ſmith to mend our arms and tools, and that he ſhould reſide among us until the corn was a foot high; but he labouring under the misfortune of a ſore leg, was obliged to leave us ſome time ſooner. We acknowledge, you ſent us a ſmith laſt ſummer, with whom we are well pleaſed, and beg you will continue him with us till the corn is a foot high; then he may come down for the neceſſaries he may have occaſion for, and then we hope, he will ſoon return to us.

Brethren,

I was preſent when the governor of New York laſt year, promiſed to ſend you a ſmith, which he accordingly did, and one agreeable to you; if he did not ſtay there the time appointed, the governor was not culpable, as he could not be ſuppoſed to know any thing of his coming away. I am very glad, you are pleaſed with the ſmith I ſent you laſt year; and, as you are deſirous he ſhould remain there, until your corn is ſuch a length, I very readily agree to it, and ſhall order him, accordingly, to ſtay that time.

Ended.

February 27. 1756.

At a private meeting of the ſachems and warriors of the Canajoharee-caſtle.

Abraham, the great Hendrick's brother, ſpeaker.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We, the ſachems and warriors of Canajoharee, take this opportunity, to ſay ſomething to you, relative to our own affairs; as your great trouble is now moſtly over.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

When firſt we were alarmed with theſe public commotions, you was ſo kind, at our requeſt, to promiſe us a fort for the protection of our caſtle. We acknowledge you have punctually performed your promiſe, ſo that, at the time when the confederacy was coming down laſt ſummer, it was completely finiſhed. Mr. Fry, on hearing of our application for men to garriſon it, applied to you on behalf his ſon, that he might be the commander thereof; you anſwered, that you would conſult the Indians, whether he was agreeable or no, which you did. In anſwer to which, we declared, he was agreeable to us, and, that it would be more acceptable to have thoſe, with whom we were acquainted, than ſtrangers.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We were miſtaken in our choice; for altho' he made us the faireſt promiſes, that he would, during our abſence, take care of our lands and the crop then in the field, he was altogether deficient in the performance, by which neglect, we entirely loſt our crops! In this melancholy ſituation, we make our application to you, aſſuring you, that without your aſſiſtance, in this article, we muſt greatly ſuffer.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We, the warriors of this caſtle, look on ourſelves as under obligation, always to be ready at a call, upon any emergency; and therefore, as we cannot at preſent fall upon any means of retrieving our loſs, we look to you for ſupport: our fences have alſo ſuffered much, in our abſence; we beg your aſſiſtance in repairing them.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

As ſoon as you informed us, that you were ready for war, we gave you a ſufficient proof of our regard for you, in our readineſs to attend you; we have alſo, at your requeſt, ſtopp'd all our warriors, for ſome years paſt, from making any excurſions againſt the Flatheads *, and turned our weapons againſt our common enemy, agreeable to your deſire: in ſhort, we hope we have, upon all occaſions, given you reaſon to think, that we have a ſincere regard for you.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

Our ſpirits are now pretty much ſunk, at the loſs of ſo many of our principal ſachems and warriors, who fell at Lake George; we look to you, to raiſe them up agreeable to our cuſtoms.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

At the requeſt of the upper nations, without our conſent, the ſelling of ſtrong liquor is entirely forbid;

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* Who live ſeveral hundred miles from the ſix nations, and with whom they have been at war time immemorial.

forbid; we have no deſign to contradict any thing they do, but only requeſt, that we may have leave to procure a little for our comfort.

Three ſtrings of wampum.

Brethren,

It gives me great concern, with you, that the perſon who had the care of your fort and caſtle, had, in your abſence, neglected the charge I gave him of both; but as he was your own choice, there is the leſs to be ſaid; however, I ſhall reprimand him for it, ſeverely. As I am fully convinced of your loyalty to his Majeſty, and readineſs at all times to follow my direction, you ſhall not want any aſſiſtance in my power, to ſupply your wants, and to contribute to your happineſs; as a proof of which, I ſhall now order you three hundred ſkipples of corn, for your ſupport; and ſhould that fall ſhort, let me know it, and your ſhall have a further ſupply, until you are able to raiſe your own grain. I ſhall alſo give orders, that your fences be immediately repaired; and as for your warriors, I ſhall ſend you a preſent by the firſt opportunity, worthy the ſingular ſervices you have done your country, with me laſt campaign.

Three ſtrings of wampum.

Brethren,

As I have nothing more at heart, than the welfare and happineſs of the people of your caſtle, who have always been our ſteady friends, I am ſenſibly affected, and ſincerely ſympathize with you, upon the great loſs you have ſuſtained, by the death of two of your principal ſachems, and likewiſe ſome of your young men at Lake George; we ſhould comfort ourſelves with the thoughts, that thoſe friends of ours, who dropped that day, died bravely in their country's cauſe, and that their memory will be honoured to the end of time.

As it is neceſſary for us to ſupply as well, and as ſoon as we can, the place of the two great ſachems loſt that day, I hope you have conſidered of proper perſons for that important truſt; if you have, I ſhould be glad you would produce them, that I may give them the proper marks of diſtinction, and enter their names among the reſt of the ſachems.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We, the ſachems and warriors of the Canajoharee-caſtle, are much obliged to you, for your friendly and good opinion of us; we aſſure you, we ſhall daily endeavour to merit it more and more, by convincing proofs of our loyalty on any occaſion.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We, the ſachems and warriors, return you our moſt hearty thanks, for your kind and well-timed ſupply of corn, and promiſe of a further ſupply, if neceſſary; the repairing of our fences, will be likewiſe of the greateſt ſervice to us, as without them, we can raiſe no grain for the enſuing year. This care of us, in our diſtreſs, adds greatly to the many obligations we already lie under, and can never be forgot.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We, the warriors of Canajoharee, are extremely pleaſed with the favourable opinion you have of our behaviour in the late action at Lake George, which alone animates us much, and greatly elevates our minds, notwithſtanding they were ſo much depreſs'd: we are extremely obliged to you, for the preſent you intended us, and ſhall receive it with the greateſt gratitude.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We take your anxiety, for ſupplying the place of the two great ſachems loſt, who chiefly managed our affairs, as a ſingular mark of your regard for our welfare: we preſent you one of our moſt capable men to ſucceed our deceaſed brother, Tarraghioris, of the tribe of the Turtle, and hope, our choice may meet your approbation. We have not as yet fixed upon one to ſucceed the great Hendrick; when we do, we ſhall immediately acquaint you.

Three ſtrings of wampum.

Brethren,

As a proof of my regard for your choice, I * now in the preſence of your whole caſtle, inveſt him with all the powers of a ſachem, and put on him thoſe marks of diſtinction, which I wiſh him long life to wear.

Ended.

The Oghquagoe Indians, before they parted, made the following ſpeech.

Adam, ſpeaker.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are now ready to return, having heard all you had to ſay; which, we aſſure you, has made ſo deep an impreſſion on our minds, as not to be forgot. We would only beg leave to deſire one

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* The firſt Britiſh ſubject, or European, perhaps, that ever they honoured ſo much! Never was one more beloved by them.—We are ſorry we are ignorant of this grand ceremony.

one favour of you, before we go; that is, to have a trading-houſe built in our country, and a conſtant ſupply of goods; which would not only add greatly to our happineſs, but would alſo increaſe our numbers, as it would draw Indians from all parts within 100 miles of us, to ſettle among us: if you will gratify us in this, you will greatly add to the many favours already received.

A belt.

Brethren of Oghquagoe,

I have ſo good an opinion, and ſo many convincing proofs, of your loyalty to the great King your Father, and affection to your brethren the Engliſh, that I have not the leaſt reaſon to doubt your ſincerity, nor the leaſt objection to building you a trading-houſe, as ſoon as that unhappy affair is ſettled, between the Indians of the lower ſettlements on your river and your brethren the Engliſh, which I hope will be very ſoon.

They returned their hearty thanks, and ſo parted.

FINIS.

A D.

ADVERTISEMENT.

AS ſeveral copies of the following account of conferences had been diſperſed about town, one of which having fallen into our hands, on a peruſal, we judged its publication, in an appendix to the foregoing ſheets, might likewiſe be acceptable. It contains the ſubſtance of what paſſed between ſome of the chiefs of the ſame Indians, who were the principal ſpeakers at Sir William Johnſon's treaties, and divers eminent Quakers, at the houſe of a gentleman remarkable for his polite behaviour, good ſenſe, and a ſteady attachment to the principles he makes a profeſſion of.

As the ſubject-matter, then treated on, differs widely from what paſſed at Fort Johnſon, though entirely conſiſtent with the public tenets of the whole body of chriſtians under the above name, we ſhall not anticipate any opinion the reader may form, by an eulogy on the ſubject, nor on both or either of the parties; neither ſhall we paſs any cenſure; but leave every one to make what judgment he pleaſes. We ſhall only add, that it would be ill-natured to inſinuate, that the liberty we take in publiſhing this, can give the leaſt cauſe of offence to that ſociety. They are too *wiſe a people, to be aſhamed of having their tranſactions laid before the public, when conducted in the manner thoſe have been. Plots againſt government, juggling parties in their own fraternity, and doctrines they hold, but are aſhamed to avow, and unwilling to defend, never could be charged to their account, without doing them the moſt manifeſt injuſtice.*

A P-

APPENDIX.

Subſtance of Conferences between ſeveral Quakers in Philadelphia, and the heads of the ſix Indian nations.

Subſtance of an occaſional converſation with ſeveral Indians after dinner, at Iſrael Pemberton's, on the 19th 4mo, 1756.*

PRESENT

Scarroyada, an Indian chief,
Kaghſwooghtaniyonde, or the old belt †,
Kayenquirigoa, or Jonathan,
Canachtogo, a [illegible]
Jonathan's [illegible]

Abraham Farrington,
Joſhua Dixon,
Iſrael Pemberton,
Mary Pemberton,
Owen Jones,
Anthony Benezet,
James Pemberton.

Conrad Weiſer
Andrew Montour } interpreters.
Daniel Claus

Iſrael Pemberton, addreſſing himſelf to the Indians, ſaid,

Brethren,

I Am glad to ſee you here, and to have an opportunity of informing you, that as William Penn, and our fathers, who firſt ſettled this province, were men of peace, and againſt all wars, ſo there are ſtill many of us, their children, who hold the ſame principles;

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* Viz. April.

† This, and the other Engliſh additions to their names, are given by the Engliſh.

ciples; and we hope there are many of your people, who ſtill have a love and regard for their old friends.

To which Scarroyada replied,

I am very glad to hear this account; we love that principle of peace, and wiſh all mankind were of the ſame mind; knowing, it would prevent any cauſe of difference or contention between us and the Engliſh, and take away the occaſion of war.

Iſrael Pemberton.

It gives me great pleaſure to hear what you ſay, and that the remembrance of William Penn is ſo dear to you; my grandfather and great grandfather were his particular friends, his counſellors, and moſt of the ſame principles; and there are many of my friends who really love and reſpect you; and though we are not concerned in the government, have good eſtates in it, and wiſh its welfare and proſperity: but we are made very ſorrowful, by the bad conduct of your couſins the Delawares, who, contrary to the friendſhip they formerly had for us, have done very wickedly, and ſhed the blood of many of our brethren, without any cauſe given them, that we know of.

Scarroyada anſwers,

What you now ſay to us, I take to be ſaid to all our brethren of the ſix nations. I ſhall anſwer you in their name: We are glad to hear, there are ſome people left of the peaceable principle; we wiſh it had been told us ſooner, and that you had always ſpoke and acted agreeable to this principle; for we are ſure, though our couſins the Delawares have ſtruck the blow, they would not hurt any of you, if they knew you as ſuch; and if you had taken ſufficient care in time, you might have kept them under your eye as children *.

Iſrael Pemberton.

We wiſh the Delawares could be reſtrained from doing any more miſchief; and the greateſt proof we can give of our love and regard for one another, is, by convincing them of their bad conduct, to engage them to return to their allegiance; for as the government cannot but be highly diſpleas'd, and is determined to puniſh them, and has therefore declared war againſt them, no doubt, but many of them will ſuffer for their folly and wickedneſs. Now if you will uſe your hearty endeavours with them, we will likewiſe ſtand between them and our government; for as we conſider they have no king, and their wiſe old men are gone, we look upon them as children, who do not know what they are doing; therefore, if they will forbear any farther miſchief, and repent, we will do all we can to have them forgiven.

Scarroyada.

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* The interpreter explained this — that the Indians expreſſions imply'd, we had too much neglected cultivating our friendſhip with the Indians, and that if we had been more converſant with each other, the Delawares would have remained more ſubject, both to the ſix nations and us; that now, they were grown ſtiff like a ſtrong tree, and not eaſily bow'd; but that, if we had converſed with each other, with the freedom our forefathers did, and manifeſted that we had nothing but love and good-will in our hearts to them, they might have been kept under our notice and direction, as children under a father; and that as the ſix nations had been too negligent, as well as we, he would now have us to reflect on it, and alter our meaſures.

Scarroyada.

We attend to what you have ſaid, and will hold it faſt (claſping his hands, and keeping it cloſe) till we come to the ſix nations, where we are now going, and then we will lay it open to them in a ſtrait line (opening his hands wide, with the back of it on the table, and ſetting his fingers and a pipe ſtrait before him) and it will be joyful news to them; and when I relate it to them, it will make their hearts melt.

Your peaceable principle is noble; and the great Spirit * above, that is over all, will protect you, if you ſteadily keep to it.

They were then told, that ſome more of our brethren in town, who profeſſed the ſame principle of peace, would be pleaſed with an opportunity of ſeeing them, and making ourſelves more known to them.

On the 21ſt 4mo. 1756, in the morning.

At a conference PRESENT

Joſhua Dixon,
Abraham Farrington,
Anthony Morris,
Mordecai Yarnell,
Samuel Powell,
Iſaac Lane,
James Lownes,
Anthony Benezet,
Daniel Stanton,
John Pemberton,
Iſrael Pemberton,
William Logan,
John Smith,
James Pemberton,
Samuel Abbot,
John Armit,
Owen Jones,
Thomas Brown,
John Reynell,
Thomas Say,

The ſame Indians as before, and 8 or 10 more,

First,

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* We meet with the ſame expreſſion, in the foregoing ſpeeches to general Johnſon.

Iſrael Pemberton firſt gave a ſtring of wampum, requeſting their attention to what was about to be ſaid to them, being a matter of great importance.

Brethren,

The opportunity ſome of us had of your company the other day, has given us great ſatisfaction; and finding you retain ſo lively and affectionate a remembrance of William Penn, and our forefathers, and the friendſhip that ſubſiſted between them and your fathers, it hath rejoiced our brethren who have heard of it, and ſome more of them are come here to ſee you; for, though we have long lain hid, and almoſt buried by the great numbers of other people who are come into this province, many of whom are men of different principles from us; yet we can inform you, there is a great number in this city, and other parts of the province, and ſome on the frontiers, where a great deal of blood has been ſhed, who are the children of William Penn, and the firſt ſettlers, that are men of the ſame peaceable principles, and who love you as our brethren. We ſhall now ariſe, and ſhew ourſelves to you; for as we are ſorrowful that differences have ariſen between your couſins the Delawares and our people, we are deſirous of uſing our endeavours to reſtore peace; and if they will ſtop from doing further miſchief, we ſhall be ready to ſtand between them and the government, that they may be forgiven; and as a proof of our ſincerity, we give you this belt, (a large white belt) which you ſee is white, without any mixture, as our love and friendſhip to you is; and, as it is made of many pieces, which were ſmall, and of little weight or ſtrength before they were knit together, but is now ſtrong and firm; ſo we, when collected and united together, ſhall appear to our brethren: and we deſire you, by this belt, to let both the ſix nations and Delawares, know, that we have not forgot the love and kindneſs of their fathers to ours; and as we are men of the ſame peaceable principles, we are ready to give our aſſiſtance in any manner we can, to put a ſtop to the preſent bloodſhed, and to pave the way for a treaty, in which all uneaſineſſes may be freely opened; and when the grounds thereof are known, we will endeavour to get them removed in every reſpect.

Gave a large belt of white wampum.

Scarroyada anſwered,

Brethren,

We are glad to hear what you have ſaid to us, and to underſtand by the belt you gave us, that you offer to ſtand up as William Penn's children; and that the old principle of peace and love are yet in being. Your fathers declared, that they had nothing but love and good-will in their hearts to all men. We thought, that the people of that profeſſion, had been all dead and buried in the buſhes or aſhes; but, we are very glad that there are ſome of the ſame men living, and that you offer to ſtand as mediators between our couſins the Delawares, and this government, now at variance. We will heartily join you herein; it is not only us few that hear you, but all the ſix nations. As to this misfortune, it came upon us, as if an evil ſpirit had ariſen from under the ground, and ſpread all over the country; and the blood was begun to be ſpilt before we had time to think: but we muſt now all apply to the good Spirit, to aſſiſt both you and us to ſubdue the evil ſpirit.

Iſrael Pemberton.

Brethren,

As you are wiſe men, we deſire you to conſider, in what manner we may ſooneſt be able to put a ſtop to the ſhedding of blood; for as many of our friends, of the ſame peaceable principle with us, for whom you expreſs ſo much regard, live in different parts of the province, and ſome on the very frontiers, without ſomething be done ſoon, they may be deſtroy'd, among others; therefore for their ſakes in particular, as well as for our countrymen in general, we are concerned to have ſome ſpeedy ſtop put to the ſhedding of blood.

Gave a ſtring with ſome medals, with the King's head.

Scarroyada's anſwer.

Brethren,

We will think of the beſt way to adviſe you, and communicate our ſentiments before we leave town; we ſhall fix the medals you gave us on our breaſts, and whenever we look on them, we ſhall remember, and let others know, that ſome of William Penn's deſcendants, of the ſame principles, are living.

The foregoing is the ſubſtance of the converſation between Iſrael Pemberton, on behalf of the Quakers, and Scarroyada, an Indian chief, 19 and 21 April 1756.

Conrad Weiſer,
Danl Claus,
Hendrick [H. M.] Mohtoun,
Andrew.

At a conference the 23d 4mo, 1756, in the houſe of Iſrael Pemberton,

PRESENT

Samuel Powel,
Anthony Morris,
James Lowns,
Abraham Farrington,
Joſhua Dixon,
William Logan,
John Smith,
Anthony Benezet,
Iſrael Pemberton,
James Pemberton,
John Pemberton,
Owen Jones,
John Reynell,
John Armit,
Mordecai Yarnall,
Daniel Stanton,
Thomas Brown,
Thomas Say,
Iſaac Lane,
Thomas Lightfoot.

Indians PRESENT.

Scarroyada, or Monakateetha,
Kagſwooghtaniyonde, or the belt,
Kayenquirigoa, or Jonathan,
Sadekaronyes, or Iggrea,
Karondow, or New-caſtle,
Oſtinados, Sincha George,
Oghſaghrahke, Thick-leg,
Oghwiſtoony the ſmith, or Lance-indian,
Iſohogata, Green-jacket,
Iyadaroonie, David,
Thonaghtogo, the Cayuga,
Woatſadacko, Scanoyada's boy,
Aroas, Silver-heels,
William Loquus, a Delaware,
And ſeveral Indian women,
Conrad Weiſer }
Andrew Montour } interpreters.
Daniel Claus }

Scarroyada

Scatroyada ſtanding up ſaid,

Brethren,

Directing his diſcourſe to Onas (by which they mean, people like minded with the firſt ſettlers) we are very glad to hear ſo many of your ſort of people are now alive, that you riſe again from the dead; and though we have been loſt, to one another, a great while, we are very glad to hear you are of the ſame ſentiments with Onas; ſince he was dead there have from time to time come new governors, one after another, and another ſort of people, different from the firſt ſettlers; and ſince we loſt him, (meaning Onas) we are very glad at your riſing up, and holding the white belt in your hands, as an emblem of peace, to endeavour to reconcile the people, that are at war; we will hold faſt what you ſay, and carry it to the ſix nations, and add ſtrength to it, who will be very glad to hear there are ſome people, of the ſame principles of the firſt ſettlers, for we have not heard of you for many years.

A ſtring.

Brethren,

We are glad to hear you ſpeak after the language of Onas, and of the principles of peace, he preached or recommended; we thought there were no more of the people, of that principle, left in this country; we are glad to ſee you now, and hear you ſpeak; we will aſſiſt you, and lay your belt of peace before the ſix nations, who will be glad to hear of you; and though this may look to contradict what the governor has ſaid to us, we do not mean ſo; but let that be as it is, we aſſure you, what you propoſe to us, is what we like beſt, and we will aſſiſt you in it, and ſhall ſend theſe three Indians, pointing to Newcaſtle, Iggrea, and William Loquus, to Wymoang, to let our couſins know there are a people riſen in Philadelphia, who deſire to have peace reſtored; and that they muſt ceaſe from doing any more miſchief, and not be afraid, but be willing, to treat with you; and we are ſure they will mind our meſſage, and what we deſire will be granted.

Second ſtring.

Brethren,

As things are now circumſtanced, we would not have you to venture your lives to go, or ſend any meſſage, over the mountains, to the Delawares and Shawaneſe, they are now your and our enemies; we will venture our lives to make the road clear; but do you ſtay where you are, if they have their throats cut, you cannot then hear from them; but it may pleaſe the Moſt High, that they may return meſſengers of peace; and if they ſhould bring you an agreeable anſwer, we then deſire you may act the part of wiſe men, and be careful in ſettling a treaty, and then you may go to meet them; but do not ſtir till you hear from us.

A third ſtring.

Brethren,

As we told you before, theſe three men, (two of whom are of the council of the ſix nations and warriors, and the other one of our couſins) have undertaken to go wherever we ſhall ſend them; and, perhaps, it may pleaſe the Moſt High, to bring them back in ſafety, and with an agreeable anſwer: if they come back, take notice of them as of your firm friends; and as you are children of Onas, and ſome of us are of the council, and ſome warriors of the ſix nations, we are very deſirous, that by your means, the treaties of friendſhip, which have formerly ſubſiſted between us, may now be renewed, and remain from generation to generation, that the chain may be kept bright, and never contract any ruſt again.

Gave a ſtring of wampum.

Brethren,

We hope you will not take amiſs our anſwering you with ſo little wampum, and not making a return of a belt; the times are very difficult with us, and we have very little wampum here, and we look upon the white belt you gave us, as belonging to you and us, and as an emblem of peace, and ſhall preſerve it as ſuch, and carry it to the ſix nations.

We have examined the foregoing, and certify that it contains the ſubſtance of the conference held between the Indians, and William Logan, and others, the 23d of April 1756.

Conrad Weiſer,
Daniel Claus,
Hendrick [H M] Montour,
vulgo Andrew.

The preceding minutes being called for, to lay before the governor, ſooner than expected, there was not time to review and add the following minutes, which ought to have been done, viz.

Iſrael Pemberton,

We are glad to hear what you ſaid to us: we believe it to be ſpoken in ſincerity, and what you really think; and though we judge it neceſſary, on matters of importance, to obſerve the good

method

method practiſed by you, to take time to deliberate; yet, as we now believe you have opened the real ſentiments of your hearts to us, ſo we, being all of one heart and mind, and knowing many more of our brethren, true Quakers, who will join us herein; can without any heſitation readily anſwer, and aſſure you, that we receive all you have ſaid with great pleaſure; and whatever may be the event of our endeavours, we hope, on all occaſions, to demonſtrate our real love and regard to you.

To which they all gave the uſual expreſſions of approbation.

Then Scarroyada, adreſſing himſelf to the interpreters, ſaid:

As we are obliged to make uſe of your ears and tongues, we deſire you may be hearty and ſincere in attending to the buſineſs now undertaken, and to join, with our brethren and us, in carrying the ſame into execution;—and he intimated, that if they did ſo, they would merit our mutual regard.

To which Iſrael Pemberton anſwered:

We approve of the prudent advice you gave them, and we hope they will remember it, and approve themſelves worthy of our regard, which we ſhall not be wanting to manifeſt to them in a grateful manner; and added:

As you are now going on your journey, and the weather grows warm, we give you ſome handkerchiefs to wipe the ſweat from your faces, and ſome ſmall matters † for your wives, with ſome more medals, which they thankfully received, and diſtributed to each preſent, reſerving a few for ſome of their brethren, &c. in town ſick, and then Iſrael Pemberton added:

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† Gave them 20 large flowered ſilk India handkerchiefs; ſuch as they are fond of, with ſome trifles for their women.

As you mentioned to us, you thought we all ought to apply to the Good Spirit, that is over all, to ſubdue the evil ſpirit, which had influenced thoſe, who had done ſo much miſchief; we ſincerely and heartily agree with you, and ſhall fervently deſire, and pray to God, to change their hearts; and that if it be his will, he would protect the meſſengers now going, and grant that they may return ſafely, and with the meſſage of peace.

Which they attended to, and received with a becoming ſolidity and ſatisfaction.

Brother Onas,

We that are both councillors and warriors of the ſix nations, and women; we return you many thanks for what you have given us, and ſhould be glad we had words ſufficiently expreſſive of our love and regard to you.

Then, with mutual, friendly ſalutations, by the good old cuſtom of ſhaking hands, the conferences ended, and Scarroyada, and moſt of the Indians, ſet out on the 25th 4mo, for New York, and thence to Onondago, and the three ambaſſadors, under the conduct of A. I. Spangenberg and others, by way of Bethlehem to Wyoming.

Copy examined,

Israel Pemberton.

F I N I S.

ERATUM.

In the note, page 15, l. 2, for 7, read 8.

Instructions of the Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esq
Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province
of Pennsylvania and Counties of Newcastle Kent & Suſsex
on Delaware.

To Scarroyady one of the Chiefs of the Oneido Nation and
Mr. Andrew Montour of the County of Cumberland.

Our former Friends the Delawares residing at Ohio having fallen upon our back Inhabitants in a most cruel manner without giving us the least notice of it, I have thought it neceſsary to send an account thereof with all poſsible dispatch to the Six Nations, and as you have kindly offer'd to undertake this Journey, by the way of Sasquehannah, I instruct you to make all the haste poſsible, and as you travel along apprize all our friendly Indians of this unexpected treatment of the Ohio Delawares, and where you think it right apply on the part of this Government for aſsistance; and that you may observe the Indian Ceremonies neceſsary on these occasions, I have intrusted to your care a quantity of Belts & Strings of Wampum confiding in your prudence & Judgement in the distribution of them.

When you arrive among the Six Nations you are first to present to them the condolances of this Government for the Deaths of the several Warriors who joined General Shirley and General Johnson & fell in Battle; remove Sorrow & Grief from their Hearts and wipe away the Tears from their Eyes.

When this is done and they can see you and hear what you have to say, let them know that you two are Meſsengers sent by the Government of Pennsylvania to the Six United Nations on a very extraordinary matter that has happ'end there, and pray them to hearken to what you say, & give it the strictest attention & then make the following Speech in my Name,

Brethren,

Your Cousins the Delawares who live at Ohio whom we have hitherto looked upon as our own Children, whom we nursed and cherished in our Bosoms, whom we have supported and with whom we have lived from our Infancy in perfect love and Tenderness, have in a most cruel manner fallen upon and murdered our Inhabitants, People whose Houses were always open to them, and who had given them every kind of thing they asked.

Brethren,

It was but the very last year they gave us a kind and friendly meeting, and at their own Instance the Treatys subsisting between us were mutually renewed; and when they parted with us they gave us assurances of their continuing our Friends whilst the Waters should run down the Rivers, and on our part in token of the sincere love we bore them, we then told them that the times were stormy, that they were much exposed, where they Lived, to Danger, and were both few in number, and consequently a very unequal match for Onontio's People, and therefore in tenderness to their lives & to prevent Evil befalling them, we desired them not to engage but to continue quiet 'til they should hear further from us. They acknowledged this as kind advice and thanked us, & promised to do so, & confirmed all by Belts of Wampum.

Brethren,

All this passed between us but the very last year, & we never dreamed that their Hearts could be poisoned by the Enemy, or the flame of love so soon extinguished in their Breasts, but the truth is that without giving us any notice, these Indians have entered our Province in Arms & killed the poor People that were settled on our Borders, Innocent People who were resting Peaceably in their Beds and expecting no harm — they struck the Tomhock in their Brains — Their Houses and Stacks of Corn & Hay they set on Fire, their Cattle stabbed & their Carcases they left weltering in their Blood exposed to the Wild Beasts, no friendly hand daring to put them under the Earth.

Our People lived without Arms, they thought there was no need of Arms, being secure of the Friendship of the Indians - The Warriors of all Nations paſsed and repaſsed & never hurt them, but partook of what they had; Your Cousins knew this, and yet they have not only fallen upon our Inhabitants & killed them, but have exercised greater Cruelties than the French Indians ever did in all the last War.

Brethren, of the Six United Nations,

These Delawares are your Cousins & under your direction, We therefore acquaint you that they have treated us as Enemies and broke thro' the Chain of Friendship; let us know whether this was done with your knowledge or consent; or by your order, and whether you will correct your Cousins & stop their Proceedings.

We expect something will be done by you immediately in virtue of the Treaties subsisting between us. what you do must be done quickly for they are even now destroying all before them.

Here give a Black Belt.

Copy. No. 5.

Governor Morris's Instructions
to Scaroidie and Montour
December 1755.

True Copy
Examin'd & compar'd with those
sent to, & receiv'd from the Board
of Trade

J Aiskell

before me my Time has been so much taken up with the variety of Business that the circumstances of this Province made necessary to be dispatched without delay, that I have not been able to give it the Consideration a Bill of that Nature requires, nor to examine the Laws of the neighbouring Provinces upon that Subject. But as the Indian Trade is now at a stand, I cannot conceive it will be at all Dangerous to the Publick to defer the compleating of this Act till the next sitting, especially as it will be necessary to call in and confine our Friendly Indians to certain Limits, to prevent their being mistaken for and killed as Enemies, where they must be subsisted. This will hinder them from hunting, so that they will have no Skins to trade with.

"ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS.

"Philad^{a.} Novem^{r.} 29th, 1755."

The Governor being informed by Mr. Hockley that he had no notice of the application of the Bill for the relief of Mr. Croghan & Trent, tho' he had been in partnership with them, & he was by far the Largest Creditor, he was indulged with the perusal of the Bill, and proposed an Amendment, which the Governor approving, it was sent to the House with the Bill, and the House acquainted the Governor that they had agreed to said Amendment.

At a Council held at the State House on Tuesday the Second of December, 1755.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor, &^{ca.}

Robert Strettell, Richard Peters, Esq^{rs.}

The Speaker and the whole House waited on the Governor & presented the Bill Entituled "An Act for the relief of George Croghan & William Trent," and the Gov^{r.} having enacted it into a Law, the Great Seal was affixed thereto & it was lodged in the Roll's Office.

The Governor being advised by Mr. Weiser that we had still some friendly Indians left on the Sasquehannah, and that it would be for the Publick Service to invite them to a Conference, he sent Yesterday the following Letter to the Provincial Commissioners:

A Letter from the Governor to the Provincial Commissioners.

"PHILAD^{A.} 1st December, 1755.

"Gentlemen:

"Upon considering the state of our friendly Indians on the River

Sasquehanna, I think it necessary that Messengers should be immediately sent to convene them to come down to Harris' Ferry, in order to concert measures with this Government upon the present Circumstances of affairs, when it may be proper to communicate to them such parts of the General Plan of operations as they may assist in the execution of.

"I am, Gentlemen, Your most humble Servant,

"ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS.

"To **Isaac Norris**, **James Hamilton**, **John Mifflin**, &ca. Esqrs."

The Governor having received a Letter from General Shirley, pressing him to attend a Congress to be very soon held at New York; he communicated the same to the House with the following Message:

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

"Gentlemen:

"General Shirley, pursuant to his Majesty's Orders for that purpose, has requested me to meet him at New York, in a Congress he has there appointed, as you will observe by the Extract of a Letter from him upon that Subject which the Secretary will lay before you. At that Meeting business of the greatest Consequence to his Majesty's Service and the safety of these Colonies will be considered and concluded, and the success of the next Year's operations may in great measure depend on the timely resolutions of that Council.

"I have lately received such Intelligence as to the State of Indian Affairs as will make it necessary for the Colonies to join in some General Treaty with those People, as well to the Southward as to the Northward, which can no way so well be resolved on as at the Congress now already met.

"And on the other hand the late Incursions of the Enemy, and the necessity there is of putting this Province into a posture of defence, as well as carrying into Execution the several matters now in Agitation, call for my presence and the Authority of the Government. Under these Difficulties I find myself at a loss which service to prefer, and desire you will give me your Sentiments on this momentous & pressing occasion.

"ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS.

"Philada. December 2nd, 1755."

December the 3rd, 1755.

The following Message of Assembly in answer to the Governor's

Albany Wensday Morning
4 December 1755–

Present

General Johnson Sole Superintend^{t}. &^{c}.
Peter Wraxall Secre^{ry}. for Indian Affairs
Arent Stevens Interp^{r}.

Three Expresses were dispatched by the Warriors & Women of the Tuscarore Nation to General Johnson one of w^{ch}. being tired staid at his House at Mount Johnson the other two came hither. Tawonthaw Speaker Delivered himself as follows

Warraghiiyagey Sole Superintendent of our Affairs

We praise God for this fortunate day which thro his Favour hath brought us again Face to Face in safety. We are dispatched by the Warriors & Women of the Tuscarore Nation to acquaint you that our Nation apprehend themselves to be in imminent Danger having received Intelligence that a French Army is designed again[st] us to cut us off. As we, the Oneidas & the Mohocks are said [to] be the People who killed the French General & defeated [their?] Army. The French have said they are making Snow Shoes & preparing every thing for a Winter Expedition, being determined to have Revenge for the Blood which we have spilt. As we look on you Brother to be one Blood one Heart & one Religion with us, We apply our selves to you for assistance in this our Distress & hereupon we give you this Belt (gave a large broad Belt)

We request Amunition & some Big Guns as our Fort is in great forwardness, also 400 Men to reinforce us. If you delay to assist us it will probably be too late, and should we be cut off you will loose faithful & Zealous Friends. Our chief Women join in this Application & desired us to tell you that we Warriors are sprung from & are apart of themselves.

Brother

We told you before that we were one Heart, one Blood & one Religion with you. We repeat it & be assured we are detirmined to remain true to & stand by our Bretheren the English to the last, nor shall it be in the power of the French to alter our Resolutions or draw us off from our Union with you. We will not do as some of our Bretheren of the Onondaga Nation did last War, received Powder & Ball from you & make use of it against you.

Brother

We Tuscarores applied to the Oneidas & proposed building a Fort for our mutual safety in a proper place but the Oneidas gave us no Answer upon which we knowing our Danger agreed to build one our selves which is more than half finished.

Our Brother the Oneida whom we left at your House we imagine is charged with a Message to you from the Oneida Nation, but this is only our surmise. we have now finished what we were charged with & enforce our Message with these 3 Strings of Wampum (w^ch^. he gave)

To the foregoing General Johnson made the following reply

Bretheren of the Tuscarore Nation

I am equally grateful to Heaven with you for our Meeting in safety & to hear that you[r] Nation are as yet well

Bretheren

You are not strangers neith[er] am I to the Boastings of the French & their Arts both by Threats & other Methods of drawing you off from your Union with us your Bretheren however to guard you against any of their Pa[rties] who may be sent against you, I will do all that is in my power to secure you and I shall send th[em] your Message by Carrüwhio (the Sec^{ry}. for

Indian Affairs) who is now going to New York to the G[ov^rs.] that are met there, who I doubt not will be as ready as I am to Afford you assistance.

(Gave a Belt & 3 Strings in return)

FROM MYNDERT WYMPEL

A letter of December 5th in Dutch from Myndert Wympel, in Senecas' Land, to Johnson about an Indian raid on English settlers, occurring on page 70 of the Johnson Calendar, was destroyed by fire.

TO NATHAN WHITING

Df.[1]

Fort Johnson[2] *December 6th 1755.*

SIR

I received yours of 29th. ult^o. at Albany, where my Hurry would not permit me to answer you. I sent by Colo. Bagly Directions in case of an attack how you are to manage. I now send you the Commissions you desired for the severall Officers & doubt not they will merit them, as they are approved of by you. As to Lowell I don't know what to Say, I am afraid he is not equal to the Thing, consider it is a great Trust to be reposed in him, and I hear he is addicted to Liquor, I mentioned it to the Commissioners, but they could not think of another. If you cannot get a proper Person, you can give him a Commission yourself.

As you wrote the Commissioners about your Circumstances there, I doubt not they have given you all the Assistance in their Power, when I spoke to them concerning the Uneasiness of those who Stayed to Garrisson the Forts, their answer was, that they did not doubt but the Governments would relieve them by the

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[1] Original destroyed by fire.

[2] For notices of Fort Johnson, see *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 1:532, in "Description of the Country between Oswego and Albany — 1757," and 3:1038–39, in "Rev. Gideon Hawley's Journey to Oghquaga, 1753."

96

[illegible] to return

[illegible] when some [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Cauchon.

[illegible] assembly [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] everything

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Our Indians con

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] appointed [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Monday Morning
[illegible] December 1755

Present
General Johnson Superintend.t &c.
[illegible] Secr.y for Indian Affairs
Arent Stevens Interp.r

Three Expresses [illegible] of the [illegible] General Johnson one [illegible] belt [illegible] same belt. [illegible] Speaker delivered himself as follows

Warraghiyagey [illegible] Superintendant of our Affairs

We praise God [illegible] the fortunate Day which [illegible] brought us again [illegible] in safety. [illegible] by a [illegible] of the [illegible] acquaint you that [illegible] approaching [illegible] received Intelligence that [illegible] to cut [illegible] off. [illegible] be the People who killed the French General & [illegible] Army. The French have said they are making Snow Shoes & preparing everything for a Winter Expedition

Since

71

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] on a [illegible] which
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] on the [illegible] Brothers [illegible] [illegible]
we [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] thereupon we [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible].

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] by [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] at [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] produced to the [illegible], and
should [illegible] [illegible] you will [illegible] faithful [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] in the application [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] wrong from
[illegible] past & [illegible].

[illegible] [illegible] before [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] with you.
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] Between the English & the
[illegible] [illegible] the power [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] drawing [illegible] [illegible]
with you. We will not do [illegible] same [illegible] Brethren
of the Onondaga Nation [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] you [illegible] [illegible] [illegible].

Brother [illegible] applied to the Oneidas
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
a proper place but the Oneidas [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] which [illegible] knowing our danger [illegible] to [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] more than [illegible] forty [illegible].

Our Brother the Oneida [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] we imagine charged with a Message to you
from the Oneida Nation, but this is only our surmise
we [illegible] finished what we were charged with
[illegible] our Message with these 3 Strings of
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible].

98.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE[1]

Copy[2]

Fort Johnson, Decemb. 7. 1755.

The Speech of the honourable major-general Johnson at a meeting of the Mohawks, Oneidas, Tuscaroras and Senecas.

Arent Stevens, interpreter.

Brethren of the Mohawks, Senecas, Oneidas, and Tuscaroras,

I Am glad to see you here at the meeting-place of all the nations, after the dangers and fatigues of the campaign. The reason of my sending for you immediately on my return is very pressing.

Your brother the governor of New-York wrote me a letter, dated nine days ago, which overtook me at Skenactady, acquainting me, that the Shawanese, Delawares, and River-indians were committing hostilities in the southern parts of this province, as well as in the Jersies and Pennsylvania; that they had burnt several out-settlements in those provinces, and killed many of our people who never offended them: as those Indians are looked upon by us as allies and dependants of you the six nations, and living within the limits of your country, I must desire you will, without loss of time, reprimand them for what they have already done, prevent their doing any more mischief, and insist on their turning their arms with us against the French and their Indians; both your and our common enemy, and that without loss of time. This is what you engaged to do at the general meeting last June at my house: I am surprized you have not done it before, and I expect you will now do it without loss of time; if not, we will endeavour to put a stop to their barbarities, and do ourselves that justice the law of nature allows.

A belt.

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[1] At Fort Johnson.

[2] Printed in: *An Account of Conferences held and Treaties made Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours* . . ., 3–5.

Brethren of the confederate nations,

I desire you will send me, from time to time, what news you receive from your allies to the southward and westward, as at all times it is very necessary for me to know it, and more particularly so at this time: in return, you may depend on my giving you all the news among us, which may be useful to you.

A large Belt.

Their answer.

Brother,

We are obliged to you for the welcome you give us, and assure you we are equally rejoiced to meet you here at our fire, after your great fatigue and danger; and congratulate you on your success over our common enemy.

It gives us the greatest concern, to hear of the barbarities of our cousins the Delawares, to our brethren the English; and we assure you we shall, without loss of time, forward your message through all the nations, and use all arguments in our power for their exerting themselves on this important occasion.

A belt.

Brother,

We will also recommend it to them to keep up a constant correspondence with you, as we are sensible it is of the utmost consequence at all times, but more so at present.

A belt.

FROM JOHN WATTS

A. L. S.

[*New York, Dec^r^ 9, 1755*]

[ ]
[ ]on, was got safe [ ]
[ ] proving an agreable Companion, my hearty Comp^ts.^
[ ] imagine stay all the Winter so far North

You have inclosd Gilbert Marseillis Receipt for £1936:
[ ] was afraid to Venture the whole Sum in one hand,
'tis a confounded [ ] the next Conveyance whether

Conferences between Sir William Johnson and the Indians.

[New-York Papers, LL, 86.]

Fort Johnson Dec 7. 1756.[1]

The Speech of the Honble Major Gen^l Johnson at a Meeting of the Mohawks, Oneidas, Tuscaroras, and Senecas

Arent Stephens Interpreter

Bretheren of the Mohawks, Senecas, Oneidas & Tuscaroras.

I am glad to see you here at this meeting Place of all the Nations after the dangers & Fatigues of the Campaign, the reason of my sending for you immediately on my return is very pressing

Your Brother the Gov^r of New York wrote me a letter dated nine days ago, which overtook me at Schenectady, acquainting me that the Shawanese, Delawares and River Indians were committing Hostilities in the Southern Parts of this Province, as well as in jersey, and Pensilvania, that they had burned several out settlements in those Provinces, and killed many of our People who never offended them, as those Indians are looked upon by us, as allies and Dependants of you the six Nations and living within the Limits of your Country. I must [desire] that you will without loss of time, reprimand them for what they have alreayd done, prevent their doing any more Mischeif, and insist on their turning their Arms with us against the French, and their Indians both you [r] and our common enemy, and that without loss of time. this is what you engaged to do at the General Meeting last June at my house, I am surprized you have not done it before, and I expect you will now do it without loss of time if not we will endeavor to put a stop to their barbarities and do ourselves that justice the Law of Nature allows A large Belt

Bretheren of the Confederate Nations

I desire you will send me from time to time what news you receive from your Allies to the Southward and Westward as at all times it is very necessary for me to know it, and more particularly so at this time. In return you may depend on my giving you all the news among us which may be useful to you. A large Belt.

Their Answer

Brother Warraghiyagey

We are obliged to you for the welcome you give us and assure you we are equally rejoiced to meet you here at our fire, after your great fatigue and danger, and congratulate you on your success over our common enemy It gives us the greatest concern to hear of the Behaviour of our cowzens the Delawares to our Bretheren the English, and we assure you we shall without loss of time forward your Message through all their Nations and use all arguments in our Power for their exerting themselves on this important occasion A Belt

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[1] *Sic.* 1755. *Johnson's Manuscripts.* IV. — ED.

Brother Warraghiyagey

We will also recommend it to them to keep up a constant correspondence with you as we are sensible it is of the utmost consequence at all times, but more so at Present A Belt

Ended.

At a meeting of the Mohawks Oneidas and Tuscaroras Dec 28 1756[1]

Segwarusara, Cheif of the Tuskarora spoke

Brother Warraghiyagey

We return you our hearty thanks for the care you take of us, in supplying us with Ammunition large Guns and Paint, as we do not know how soon the enemy will come upon us. We have been speaking to our eldest brothers* these four years about having a place of defence made against the French, but could never bring them to a conclusion untill now having promised to join and assist our Brethren the English against any attempts which the French shall make against them

* meaning the Oneidas.

Kanquiesa spoke (cheif of the Oneidas).

Brother Warraghiyagey

We join with our Brothers the Tuscaroras in returning you our hearty thanks, for adviseing us to be upon our guard against the malicious designs of the French and that you would supply us with Ammunition large Guns Paint &c

Brother Warraghiyagey

We own we have been lost or drunk these several years past in not listening to you and our youngest brothers in joining the two Castles together but we have now opened our ears, which have been stopped and are determined to live and die with you A Belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey

You acquainted us some time ago of the Designs of the French in incroaching upon our hunting Grounds and desired[2] us to be on our guard, against them, or otherwise they would come and dispossess and destroy us all. It seems to us now that they had blinded our eyes and is as plain to us as the sun that rises in the morning, that they had it in view. No doubt but you have heard that the French had invited us to meet them at Swegatsy, but we have taken a firm resolution never to listen to any but yourself. We dont speak this from our Lips, but it comes from the bottom of our hearts A Belt

Brother Warraghiyagey

You blame us for not taking care of our Allies to the Southward but we assure you we have some time ago sent four large Belts to them desiring that they would not join with any but whom the five Nations joined. And since we are informed that the Belts & Messages we sent were directly made known to the French. Now brother we have sent an other Message desiring that they would come and speak with us, and be assured we shall do our utmost endeavors to put a stop to any more Bloodshed that way and we hope that you will desire the Governors to do their utmost in bringing them over to us, as we are sure there is nothing draws them from us but the large Presents which the French make them

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[1] *Sic.*

[2] advised. *Johnson Manuscripts.* IV. — Ed.

A Belt

Brother Warraghiyagey

We have sent to the River Indians and Shawanese to come to our Castle, to hear from their own mouths, what they have to say for their killing so many of our brothers, and if they should not come upon our Message We the Oneida and Tuscarora Sachems are determined to go to them and know the reason of it

Governor Shirley promised to have a Fort built for us and men to garrison it, and not hearing any thing about it since, We think he will refer it till Spring but we hope[1] you will have a Fort built immediately, and men to Garrison it as we are certain the French only wait a favorable opportunity to fall upon us A String—ended.

My answer made [to them] Feb 17th 1756

Arent Stevens Interpreter

Bretheren of Tuscarora

I received the friendly speech you made at my House when I was at New York, together with your acknowledgements for the arms, ammunition &c. I gave your Nation, I heartily wish they may answer the end they were designed for, which was to enable you to secure yourselves against any attempts of the French, or any other enemy. I highly approve of your wisdom, and timely advice to your elder brothers the Oneidas, and am extreamly glad that you and they have at last agreed to build a place of defence, and to join your Brethren the English, against any attempts, of your and our common enemy the French A Belt.

Bretheren of Oneida.

It highly pleases me to find you so gratefull for the advice I have given you, and the assistance I promised you should have, as well as your Bretheren the Tuscaroras, and I expect you and they together with the Skaniodaraghroonas, will live so compact and have your Castle fortified in such a manner, as may enable you to make a bold defence, should any attempts be made against you. If you do this, and have a good officer with a party of men, there can nothing hurt you A Belt.

Bretheren

Nothing can give me greater satisfaction than to find that you have at last come to your senses, and to the use of your hearing of which you acknowledge to have been bereft some time. As I have a great regard for you, I most sincerely wish you may continue in your senses, that you may follow the wholesome advice, which your brother the Tuscarora alltho' younger has given you, and that which I shall from time to time give you

Brethren

Had you been in your [right] senses, and your eyes open, when I timely acquainted you with the designs of the French encroaching on your hunting Grounds, and destroying you, and had followed my advice, the French would not have been now in possession of the best part of your country, and bid[^{s}] you defiance as they now do. Shake away then that infatuation which has so long had the better of you, & exert yourselves now in conjunction with your Father the Kings Troops, and you may still recover your Lands, and be a happy People, which is the sincere wish of your Father, and all your Brethren — Your not complying with the Governor of Canadas Invitation to meet him at Oswegatsy, was quite right, and am glad you have taken so firm a Resolution of adhering to your engagements, had you acted otherwise it would have been a breach of the many solemn promises you have made to me on that head A Belt.

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[1] so hope that. *Johnson Manuscripts*, IV. — ED.

Bretheren of Oneida & Tuscarora

I am heartily pleased to hear from you, that you have not been so remiss as I imagined, with regard to the Delawares, and Shawanese and that you are determined to have a conference with them, I must press you in the most strenuous manner to exert your authority at said meeting and let me know the result thereof as soon as possible A Belt

Bretheren

I heard General Shirley say he had ordered a Fort to be built for you some time ago, why his orders have not been complyed with I can not say, but this I may venture to affirm it was not his fault, however as you now desire it may be built, I will order proper Persons to go about it as soon as possible A Belt

Ended

Copy of a letter from the Rev^d M^r Hawley at Aughquagey to the Hônble W^m Johnson dated Dec. 27.—1755

Very honored Sir

The Sachems who went from hence with your Message to the Delawares just now return from Trizaoga[1] and desire me to pen the following letter to your honor, in which you have a brief account, how the Quarrel between the English and Delawares began, and what has happened since, according to the account which we have from Trizaoga[1] in which also your honor has the answer of the Delawares to the Message you sent them by the Bearer hereof and a short speech which those Indians desired me to pen relative to the affair Your Honor will pardon me if I am not so particular in my Narration as the Indians are in telling a story the letter I am desired to write [except abreviation] is as follows

Brother Johnson

We have been to Trijaoga[1] upon your affairs — In the first place we relate what news we hear, The Indians there inform us that about two months ago, there was a party of English at Tsnasogh[2] alias Shamokin upon a scouting Design, and that while they were there news came that there was a party of French and Indians from Ohio about there, and that Scarouyndy advised the English Party to return back and by all means to keep on the East Side of the River, they took his advice, tis said, and returned, but went the West side of the River, and that before they had gone far, a french party came upon them, fired and drove them into the River, where four of the English were drowned. Not long after this that an Englishman came to Scahandowana alias Wioming, and as he used to trade upon this River the Indians asked him, whether he had brought any Goods with him. He said, no, but I have brought my body, my Flesh, and you may do what you please with me its you said he and the six Nations who killed our people t'other day. I was there, I know your Language, it was certainly you that did the Mischeif and now said he you and the English will fight. may be you think that you and your uncles the Six Nations are able to stand the English I tell you said he that we can pinch you between our fingers. I shan't cheat you and act in the dark and underhanded as you do, but tell you plainly that the English are going to fight you. In six days more the English will set out from all parts against you. The Englishman returned to the white People and informed them that a great multitude of Indians of all Nations were gathered at Wioming &c &c., then the English that way made it their business, to take as many of the Delawares who lived among or near the White People, and make them Prisoners, as they could lay hands on. the number they took its said is* 232 in all. One old man they took [who] heard the account which the Englishman brought from Wioming, and made his escape with much difficulty and carried the news back to Wioming and gave an account of the English taking the Delawares who lived near the white People &c. The Indians at Wioming its said were fully concerned after the Englishman had been there, and kept scouts out to see if any English were coming against them, at last they saw a single man coming, the Indians went to the white man, and asked him whether he was alone, he told them that three more who were gentlemen were coming to have a treaty with them, they soon arrived and called the Indians together, and informed them that they were sent to treat with them about building a Fort there that their Squaws and Children might be protected from the French. The Indians desired to see their Commission, they produced a certificate of it in writing, the Indians objected against their not having Wampum, with that they produced another Paper Now the old man who had been taken by the English and made his escape, said to the Indians, dont you beleive these men they only mean to deceive you, and make you prisoners or put you to the sword. At that the Indians took their Hatchets and knocked them all in the head except the Indian Trader who came there before and was now with these gentlemen that made his escape. Thus Brother Johnson we have given you an account how the Quarrel began, between the English and Delawares, and what has happened since, and if they have told us a pack of lies we can't help it.

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[1] *Sic.* Tiyaoga. *Johnson Manuscripts*, IV.

[2] Tsinaghse. *Ibid.*—Ed.

* this is false

Now my brother we give you the answer of the Delawares to the Message you sent by the Bearer this is the answer our Nephew gives

Brother Johnson

You desire to know what is the reason of the Quarrel between us and our Brethren the English, you say you are ignorant of it so are we, we don't know the cause of this Quarrel, tis true Brother as you say we are not at our own Command but under the direction of the Six Nations We are women, our uncle must say what we must do, he has the Hatchett and we must do as he says, tis true Brother we have not the Hatchet — We are poor Women and have got out of temper. We are much obliged to you brother that you tell us to stop, and leave off that which we have begun to do, We hear you we stop & repent. But Brother Johnson some of our young men a few days ago went out against the English, we cant help it, tho we have sent after them as soon as we heard from you Brother to stop them and call them back Now Brother, you must take care of your side too, many of our people are now captives, among the English — We must see every one of them returned again, or else it will not be well. We shall wait two months to see whether our captives are given up, and if we dont see them then we dont know what we shall do. — When we see our people again, then we shall contrive to make up the matter and settle affairs and not till then — Thus Brother Johnson you have the answer of my Nephew to your Message. Now brother we that are young ones here, and say a few words, by and by, you shall hear from our Heads. We ask leave for once according to the English Custom to use paper instead of Wampum

Brother Johnson

Be strong, do all you can on your part, and we will do all we can on ours let both of us be engaged to pursue the things that make for Peace and Harmony. You'l not doubt Brother, but that the six Nations will make it their business to set things to rights again, and make up the unhappy quarrel between our Brethren the English, and the Delawares our Nephew. Be strong Brother, be engaged and we will assist you and we need not doubt but we shall gain the point

We would inform you Brother, that the Delawares tell us that two companies of their men set out not long ago against the English, but they have now sent after them to bring them back, they say that there was 80 in one and 40 in tother company, And that a number from Ohio set out lately against the English Frontiers

Thus honoured Sir, I have wrote all that the Indians desired I have wrote in hast, and not correct as I might, had I leisure. the Indians from Tiyaoga arrived just at sun set, and the bearer designing to set out early in the morning, I must send this rough account just as it is I rely on your Honors Candor — If I can serve your Honor in any thing in your public Affairs I am yours at Command

Gidⁿ Hawley[1]

To the Hônble Will^m Johnson esq^{re}.

P S I propose to your Honors consideration whether it would be well for the English to build a Fort and keep a Garrison here I dont at all think that the Delawares design to be peaceable and a Fort here perhaps will be necessary to keep the rest of the Indians on the River in order

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[1] Rev. Gideon Hawley was born in Connecticut in the year 1727, and graduated in Yale College in 1748. He commenced his labors in February, 1752, as a Missionary among the Indians at Stockbridge where he used to instruct some Iroquois that came thither. He visited the Susquehannah Indians the following year, and was ordained a Missionary to the Western Indians, July 31, 1754. He remained at Oghquaga, or Onohoghquaga, in Broome Co., N. Y., until May, 1756, when the French War obliged him to retire. He returned to Boston, and served as Chaplain to Col. Gridley's regiment in the expedition against Crown Point. In 1757, he was sent Missionary to the Marshpee Indians, Mass., among whom he passed the remainder of his life. He died October 3, 1807, aged 80 years. *Allen*. — Ed.

Fort Johnson Feb.[1] 29. 1756

At a meeting of the Aughquageys, Tuscaroras, Skaniadaradighroonas, Chughnuts, Mihicanders and Shawanese. Thomas their speaker stood up and went through the ceremony of Condolence for the Loss of my sister and brother in Law;[2] and then proceeded as follows

Brother Warraghiyagey

We will now open our hearts to you, and throw off the Burthen which lyes to[3] heavy upon us, it greived us much to hear it was suggested that all the Nations living upon the Bankes of the Susquehana, even as far as Aughquagey had joined the French. We assure you it is a false Report, & we appeal to your[4] Brother whither we have not (since your acquaintance with us) always proved true Bretheren to the English and strictly adhered to the agreements made so long ago between them, and our Forefathers and depend upon it we ever shall notwithstanding all the Temptations of the French. What we now say comes not from our Lips only, but from the very bottom of our Hearts

Brother Warraghiyagey

We spake now in behalf of the Oneidas, Tuscaroras, Shaniadaradighroonas, and Chughnuts and we may say, we spake also in behalf of the Shawanese who are now upon their way to Chugnut[5] where they are to settle and live under our protection, also the Delaware Indians who live upon the East Bank[6] of that River near the Head of it, have given us the strongest assurances that they will live and die with us, and in consequence of that will keep up the same Friendship and alliance with the English as now subsists between us, and them. and this Belt we hereby deliver to you as a Testimony thereof— Gave the Belt

Brother Warraghiyagey

We beg leave to lay our immediate danger and distress before you. We are now entirely exposed to the merciless Power of the French and their Indians, our and your common enemy their Hatchet is ready to fall upon our Heades, their Indians who live not far from us, threaten us for our attachment to you for they call and look upon us as English as we truly are. Now Brother our ernest request is that you would build us a small Place of Defence, wherein our old men, Women, and Children may have shelter in this time of Danger, and that you would also supply us with arms, Ammunition &ca, wherewith to defend ourselves from any attempts the enemy may make upon us. Gave a Belt.

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[1] January. *Johnson Manuscripts*, IV.

[2] Captain Farrell, his sister's husband, who was killed in the battle of Lake George. *Supra*, VI., 1005.

[3] so. *Johnson Munuscripts*, IV. [4] you. *Ibid.*

[5] This village was situate on the South bank of the Susquehanna river, opposite Binghamton, Broome county, N. Y. *Guy Johnson's Map of the country of the Six Nations.*

[6] Branch. *Johnson Manuscripts.* —Ed.

Feb 2. 1756.

At a Meeting of the Oneidas, Tuscaroras Skaniadaradighroonas, Chughnuts, & Mihicanders, I made an answer to their speech in the presence of

The Rev^d M^r Hawley	Three Interpreters viz^t
Lieut Miller	M^r Daniel Clause
M^r Reid	Arent Stevens
	W^m Printup

Canadagai a Mohawk Cheif my speaker stood up and answered to their speech as follows viz^t

Bretheren of the Oneidas, Tuskaroras Schaniadaradighroonas, Mihicanders, Chughnuts, and Shawanese

I approve much of your openness of Heart to me, on this occasion and as that is the surest way of having your Greivances redressed. I would advise you, (as I have often your Bretheren of the Six Nations) always to follow that method, and you may be assured I will endeavor to ease your minds and do every thing in my power to contribute to your happiness. As for the idle surmises of, or reports spread by any evil minded, silly People, who know nothing of your sentiments, or the state of your or our affairs, I must desire you will not give ear to, nor be in the least uneasy at them, for their words are like Wind, and not to be noticed. if at any time your minds are disturbed, or that you labor under any difficulties, let me know it immediately and you may depend upon releif. The strong assurances you now and always have given me of your attachment to your Bretheren the English, and of [your] gathering together, gives me the greatest pleasure and will animate me to take the more care of you which you may depend upon as long as you continue stedfast friends to the English which you will ever find it your Interest to do A Belt

Bretheren of the several before mentioned Nations

Your case I have considered, and agree with you in opinion, that your present situation is far from being safe having so dangerous and deceitful an enemy as the French (are notoriously known to be) on the one side, and their blind folded, rash Indians (who know not their own Interest) on the other Wherefore agreeable to your request, I shall immediately have a Fort built for the safety of your old people, Children, and friends living round about there I will also supply you with arms, ammunition &ca, to defend said Fort against any attempts the French or their Indians may make upon you. Keep a good look out, and if at any time, you find a design against you let me know it, and I will come immediately to your assistance. this I confirm by this Belt of Wampum. A Belt

Feb^y 2^d 1756

The Answer of the Aughquageys, [Tuscaroras] Skaniadaradighroonas, Mihicanders, Chugnuts and Shawanese. Adam speaker

Brother Warraghiyagey

We the several Nations of Indians living at and about Susquehana River, and its Branches, here present, Return you our most hearty thanks for your kind compliance to our requests, as well as for the great regard you shew for our safety by promising to come in person to our assistance should there be occasion at any time for it, this convincing proof of your love for us at this critical time, lays us under the greatest obligations, and be assured we and ours shall never forget it, as long as the Waters of Susquehana run A Belt & finished

Giving six Shouts of approbation

Friday 6 I sent an Indian express with a belt of Wampum to know the reason of the six Nations delay.

Monday the 9th Not hearing from them yet and all the other Nations waiting here impatiently, despatched Jacobus Clement one of the Interpreters to bring them down speedily

Wednesday the 11th Three Onondaga Warriors arrived at my House with three Strings of Wampum from the Sachems acquainting me that their Nation Cayougas and Senecas were making all the haste possible and would be here tomorrow in a body

In the afternoon the Onondagas and Cayougas arrived and told me the 50 Senecas would be here tomorrow

The Mohawk Sachems came to me with an express from their Bretheren the Conajoharees acquainting them, and me that the Oneidas and Tuscaroras were to be a Friday at their Castle, in order to condole the death of the great Hendrick and the other Cheifs of that Castle, who were slain at Lake George, and desired their, and my attendance at the Ceremony. I gave them the proper Belts of Wampum on that occasion, and desired they would act for me, as I could not possibly attend, there being so many Indians at my house, which they readily agreed to; and set off.

Thursday the 12th—The Senecas arrived & told me, that the Oneidas & Tuscaroras would not be here till Saturday or Sunday for the above mentioned reasons

Friday 13—Some more of the Senecas arrived when I performed the necessary ceremony on that occasion

Saturday the 14—Had an express sent me from Conajoharee that a great number of the Oneidas, Tuscaroras & Mohawks were met there and would finish their condolence that day and set off the next which they accordingly did and on Monday 16th the Oneidas and Tuscaroras arrived here when I received them and performed the usual ceremony on that occasion.

After which Kanaghquiesa an Oneida Sachem stood up & spoke

Brother Warraghiyagey

We doubt not but you have been uneasy at our staying so long after our Brethren of the other Nations, the reason is this, we have been clearing up the Road of our Forefathers as is customary among us, (meaning condoling the loss of several of their people who died, and were killed, since they travelled that Road before) particularly at Conajoharee, where we have lost two great men in whose stead or Room we have been appointing others. Our Bretheren of the other Nations have passed by and neglected this, which we think wrong. Now we are here compleat and beg you will be easy in your mind A Belt

Brother Warraghiyagey

Hoping we have now quieted your mind be beg you will think and speak cooly, otherwise it may be of ill consequence to us, as our welfare depends greatly on your cool deliberations A Belt

Brother Warraghiyagey

As this is the Council Room where all the affairs of the Six Nations are transacted, and as you told us you would keep a white Wing hanging in it to sweep it clean with, we now take this Fan down and sweep all dust and dirt out of it, so as nothing may interrupt us in our councils and deliberations 3 Strings Wampum.

Feb 16th 1756.

The Answer to the Oneidas & Tuskaroras speech

Bretheren

On your arrival yesterday you expressed your concern least I might be uneasy at your staying so much longer than the rest of your Bretheren, and the time appointed The reasons you have given are sufficient apology. I am very glad you have done every thing necessary on your part agreeable to your customs and the Rules layed down for you by your wise auncestors. So many of you appearing here now at this Council and at so bad a Season of the Year gives me great pleasure, as it plainly demonstrates your regard to my invitation

A Belt.

Bretheren

I thank you for the prudent and kind steps you have taken to quiet my mind at this time I assure you it is quite settled and my thoughts fixed upon nothing so much, as what may tend to your welfare and that of all our Bretheren in general A Belt

Bretheren

I have had this Council Room (on my inviting you and the rest of the Nations [to it]) well cleansed, but as you imagined it might have by your staying so much longer than the time appointed [for meeting] gathered some dust, I am glad you have taken the Fan down, and swept [it], so that nothing might in the least impede our Consultations

3 Strings Wampum

Ended this affair

At a private meeting of the upper Mohawk Castle Wednesday 18th

PRESENT— all the Sachems & Warriors

Abraham the great Hendricks brother stood up & spoke

Brother Warraghiyagey

We return you our hearty thanks for the care you have taken in Fortefieing our Castle last summer agreeable to our desire and also of garrisoning it in our absence for the security of our old People & Children. and as we look upon it as necessary now as ever (from the many reports we daily have of the Frenches Intentions of attacking us for our attachment to you) we ernestly desire there may be an officer and a proper number of men posted there as soon as possible for our defence. A Belt

Bretheren of Conajoharee

As I am fully convinced of your sincerity & attachment to His Majesties Interest, I readily comply with your request, not doubting it will be very agreeable to your father the Great

King, who has nothing more at Heart, than the safety & Welfare of you his faithful children. As an assurance of what I say, and now promise you I give you this Belt of Wampum
A Belt

Ended

At a Meeting of Five hundred and eighty six of the Six Nations and their allies at Fort Johnson. Feb 18 1756

PRESENT—The Hônble W^m Johnson sole Superintend^t of their affairs
Rev D^r Ogilvie
Rev^d M^r Hawley
Capt^n Beckwith
Lieut Miller
Capt^n Butler & other Indian Officers
Several Gentlemen
The Deputy Secretary and four Interpreters
Lieut^t Dunbar
Lieut^t Pottinger
Lieut^t Mills
Lieut^t Lottridge

Bretheren of the Six united Nations

I have heard with great concern that a war party of the Senecas the most remote nations of the confederacy have had a considerable misunderstanding with their Bretheren the English to the Southward which has been fatal to some of that nation I am extremely unable to express my sorrow for that unhappy affair, and as the Hatchet remains fixed in your heads I do with the greatest affection and tenderness remove it thence. A Belt

Bretheren

With this Belt I cleanse and purify the Beds of those who fell in that unfortunate affair, from the defilement they have contracted A Belt

Bretheren

I am informed that upon that unhappy occasion you have lost three of your principal Warriors I do with this Belt cover their Dead Bodies that they may not offend our sight any more and bury the whole affair in [eternal] Oblivion A Belt

Bretheren

I have now agreeable to your Antient Customs scattered those clouds that looked with so dark and threatning an aspect. The Sun now shines bright again, therefore let us under its enlightning and cherishing influences proceed upon an[1] important business with our usual cheerfulness and unanimity A Belt

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[1] our. *Johnson Manuscripts*, IV. — ED.

The remaining part of the ceremony of condolence jointly in the names of General Johnson, & Gov^r Morris, whom Scarowjady the Half King and M^r Montour represented

Bretheren of the Caijougas and Tedirighroonas,[1]

By constant experience we discover that the life of Man, is as the Flower of the Field, in this transitory scene therefore Resignation becomes us under the loss of our nearest and dearest friends, comfort yourselves therefore under the losses you have sustained as becomes reasonable creatures With this Belt I cover all your dead, that they may no more offend your sight

A Belt.

Bretheren of the Onondagas, Oneidas, Tuskaroras, Skaniadaradighroonas, Aughquageys, and the Mohawks of both Castles.

I perform the same ceremony to you

After this ceremony six French Prisoners some of those who were taken at the late Battle near Lake George were delivered with great ceremony to the Indians in order to replace the following Indians who were killed in that Battle viz: Tiyanoga, alias Hendrick, Tarrachioris, Waniacoone, of Conojaharee, Skayowees, Onienkoto of the Mohawks, Nica'anawaa, Skarouyadas son, and Cayadanorong, a Tuscarora. they received the Prisoners with the greatest mark of Gratitude and Satisfaction, every nation giving the Shout of approbation, and then carried off the Prisoners to their respective familys

Thus ended the Ceremony necessary on those occasions agreeable to their Customs

The Answer of the Six Nations and their Allies. Feb 19^th 1756.

Red Head Speaker.

PRESENT — The Honble W^m Johnson	Lt Miller
The Rev D^r Ogilvie	Lt Dunbar
The Rev^d M^r Hawley	Capt^n Butler & other Indian Officers

Three Interpreters

Brother Warraghiyagey

We the Sachims and Warriours of the Seneca Nation return you our sincere [and hearty] thanks for your great affection in drying our Tears, and driving Sorrow from our Hearts, and we in return perform the same ceremony to you, with the like Hearty Affection.

A String of Wampum

Brother Warraghiyagey

We are sensible of your goodness expressed to us in removing the cause of our Grief, and tenderly taking the Axe out of our Heads A Belt

Brother Warraghiyagey

We are thankful to you for cleansing the Blood out of our sight agreeable to the antient Custom of our Forefathers A Belt

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[1] This tribe lived at the head of Cayuga lake, on the site of the present village of Ithaca, Tompkins Co., N. Y. *Guy Johnson's Map of the Country of the Six Nations.* — ED.

Brother Warraghiyagey

We are thankfull likewise for your covering the Graves of those who were slain in that unhappy affair

Brother Warraghiyagey

We acknowledge your Goodness in thus settling our minds which were so much discomposed, and that you have so seasonably reminded us of that Harmony that has always subsisted, between our Forefathers and our Bretheren the English, an account of which has been handed down to us by Tradition from Father to son—We promise due attention to your advice, which we are convinced tends to our welfare, and assure you that we bury that unfortunate affair in eternal oblivion. A Belt

The Cayougas & Tederighroonas returned their hearty thanks to the General for his affectionate and Public Condolence with a Belt A Belt

The Onondagas acknowledge the same A Belt

The Oneidas . . . . the same A Belt

The Tuscaroras and Skaniadaradighroonas the same A Belt

The two Castles of the Mohawks the same A Belt

Brother Warraghiyagey

The Six United Nations as one body do with the greatest thankfulness acknowledge your brotherly affection in thus effectually cleansing and purifying all our habitations from all the Blood and defilement they had contracted by the Death of so many of our principal men A Belt

The Speaker then took up a large Belt which the General gave them in the year 1748 with an emblem of the Six Nations, joined hand in hand with us and spoke as follows

Brother Warraghiyagey

Look with all attention on this Belt, and remember the solemn and mutual engagements we entered into when you first took upon you the Management of our affairs. Be assured we look upon them as sacred, and shall on our parts punctually perform them as long as we are a People A Prodigious large Belt.

The Speaker then took up another very large Belt which was given them by the Governor of New York some years ago.

He then repeated the solemn promises that were then made them by the Representatives of all the Governments then present and said

Brother Warraghiyagey

We hope our Bretheren the English will seriously remember the promises made us by this Belt, & exactly perform them, and we promise to do the same, though we have no records but our memorys A very large Belt

Brother Warraghiyagey

As you and the Governor of Philadelphia have asked us what reason we can possibly assign for the barbarous Behaviour of our Nephews the Delawares, all we can say at present is, that they are deluded by the craft & subtilty of our old and perfidious enemy the French, but we promise on our part, we will try all means to stop their proceeding further in their Hostilities, and beg you will do the same 3 Strings

Brother Warraghiyagey

We ernestly entreat you will immediately acquaint all the Gov^{rs} concerned that we the six Nations have not been inattentive to this important affair, but have already sent some of our people to take the Hatchet out of the hands of our Nephews the Delawares, and we should be glad that you would draw your Troops from the Frontiers, then we will endeavour to bring our Nephews the Delawares to deliver up all the Prisoners they have taken from their Bretheren the English and to make the best acknowledgement in their Power for their base and treacherous Behaviour A Belt.

Bretheren of the Six Nations

I am extreemly pleased with your kind and friendly acknowledgments of my public condolence yesterday, and as all causes of uneasiness to either of us are now removed. I propose tomorrow to deliver you a speech relative to our French[1] circumstances which I hope you will be properly prepared to hear

Ended

Feb 19th 1756

At a Meeting of several principal Warriours from the most remote parts of the Senecas country, who never came down before to any meeting. The Chief man named Kayandigaro alias Kindarunty spoke as follows

Brother Warraghiyagey

I with my party of Warriors from Kanuskago the Door of the Six Nations embrace this first opportunity of shaking you by the Hand and of assuring you that nothing but my regard for you, and my desire of hearing your sentiments from your own mouth, could have induced me and my young men, to take such a journey at this season of the year, as we had several of our sachims attending at the meeting. We are now here at the Fire place of all the Nations, and assure you we are heartily glad to see you

Bretheren of Kanuskago[2]

As I have nothing more at heart than the Welfare of the six Nations and their allies. It always gives me the most sensible pleasure to see or even hear from any of them, and more especially you whom I never saw before, as it affords me an opportunity of commencing that acquaintance and friendship with you, which is natural among Bretheren, and which my inclination will always lead me to improve, especially with so brave a people as your nation has always been deemed

Ended

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[1] *Sic.* present. *Johnson Manuscripts*, IV.

[2] Kanuskago, or Ganuskago village was in the present town of Dansville, Livingston county, N. Y. *Guy Johnson's Map of the Country of the Six Nations.* — Ed.

Feb 20th 1756

PRESENT at the following public Speech

The Honble W^{m} Johnson sole superintendent of their affairs
Rev D^{r} Ogilvie
Rev M^{r} Hawley
Capt^{n} Beckwith[1]
Lieut^{t} Miller
Lieut^{t} Dunbar[2]
Lieut^{t} Pottinger[3]
Lieut Lee[4]
Lieut Kennedy[5]
Lieut Mills
Ensign Pinitint[6]
Several Indian Officers & other Gent^{n}
Three Interpreters

Bretheren of the Six United Nations your allies and Dependants here present.

It always gives me the most solid pleasure to meet you here, that we may felicitate ourselves in the cherishing warmth, and light of that Fire kindled here for our mutual good. may it ever burn bright as the Sun that illuminates, and guides the day, that you and your posterity to the latest generations may rejoice in its benevolent influence A Belt

Bretheren

It gives me a particular satisfaction to meet you here at this time for two important reasons

The first is, that it affords me an opportunity of a friendly Interview under the shade of that Tree which was lately so solemnly, and judiciously planted; and of calmly consulting, and maturely deliberating matters of the utmost consequence and which nearly concern our mutual safety, Welfare and Honor A Belt

The second is, that it gives me an opportunity of shaking you by the hand with a brotherly affection, and in the name of the Great King your Father congratulating you upon our late happy success which I make no doubt must give you the more sensible pleasure, and I flatter myself from your late repeated protestations of fidelity to your Bretheren the English, it will prove a means of animating you and all your faithful allies to stand forth with your usual Bravery upon all future occasions A Belt.

How much greater might our success have been, how much more sensibly would it have been felt by our treachorous and common enemy had more of your Warriors appeared in the Field on that important day had all our force been united. If the Bubling or drops of our

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[1] Capt. JOHN BECKWITH, of the 44th regiment, entered the Army 11 June 1748, and obtained his commission as Captain on the 2d March, 1751; served in the campaign under Braddock; became a Major 18th July, 1758; a Lieutenant Colonel in the Army 3d January, 1762, and of the 27th or Enniskillens, serving in America, 1st May, 1773. Which last commission he filled until October, 1775, when his name disappears from the Army list.

[2] JOHN DUNBAR, of the 48th Regiment, was wounded at the battle of Monongahela. His name is not found in the Army list of 1765.

[3] JAMES POTTINGER was appointed to a lieutenancy in the 44th Regiment on the 2d May, 1752; he made the campaign under Braddock, and continued in the Regiment until 1758, when he sold out and died. *Manuscript note in Army list of* 1758.

[4] CHARLES LEE, of the 44th Regiment of foot, was promoted to a captaincy 11th June, 1756, and on 10th August, 1761, became Major of the 103d, or Volunteer Hunters, which Regiment was disbanded after the peace of 1763. On 25th May, 1772, he rose to be Lieutenant-Colonel in the Army, and so continued until 1776.

[5] QUINTON KENNEDY was a Lieutenant in the 44th Regiment 30th June, 1755, and in 1758 became Captain.

[6] In the copy of these Conferences, printed in London for A. Millar, 1756, and in the State Library, this name is "Penington." — ED.

War Kettle did so much how great would have been the consequence had it boiled with its usual Fury, it would like a mighty Torrent carried all before it, and it would have sounded the fame of our victorious arms far and near and spread universal Terror all around us. I now in the name of the Great King your Father, in this publick manner return you thanks for joining our arms last summer, and for your Gallant Behaviour in that action. this gives him reason to expect the like fidelity & courageous conduct from you all for the future, and greatly endears you to him, and to all his loving subjects your affectionate Bretheren

A Belt

Bretheren

This animates me with fresh pleasure, and affection, and at this important conjuncture of affairs to brighten and strengthen the Covenant Chain, that has so long linked us together in mutual freindship and brother[ly] affection which I hope will continue inviolable and sacred, as long as the Sun shines or the Rivers continue to water the earth, notwithstanding all the intrigues of our old and perfidious enemys, who have left no means unessayed, and especially at this time to weaken and divide us that so they may in the event root out the remembrance of your name, and Nations from the face of the earth A large Covenant Belt

Bretheren

On my arrival from Lake George last December I had (from your brother the Governor of New York and since from the Governor of Pensilvania) the shocking news of your Nephews the Delawares and Shawanese falling upon your Bretheren of Pensilvania, Maryland and Virginia in the most cruel & treacherous manner, killing and barbarously butchering the innocent defenceless people who lived on the Frontiers of said Governments, burning and destroying all they had, and that without any just cause or reason as I understand. This I communicated immediately to you, by one of your own People a Seneca, with a Belt of Wampum desiring you would without loss of time put a stop to your Nephews spilling any more of your Bretherens blood, and that you would inquire into, and let me know the reasons for such their wicked and unparalelled Behaviour to the Kings subjects, your Bretheren and friends. I now repeat the same and expect to hear what you have done, in consequence of said message and desire

Bretheren I tell you all with concern, that I plainly forsee, unless you the six Nations who have always maintained a superiority over them Indians, will now exert yourselves in this case you will not only loose that authority which they have hitherto acknowledged but will have them your enemies A Large Black Belt

Bretheren

I told you before the Governor of Pensylvania had acquainted me with the base Behavior of your Nephews the Shawanese, and Delawares, and has also sent your freind Scarouyady, and Andrew Montour to you with his Message, and to know your sentiments thereon. I desire and expect you will pay a just regard to his Message, and afford him all the Assistance you can, in bringing that unhappy affair to as good an issue as possible A Belt

Bretheren

I am now to acquaint you that the Great King of England your Father on the Death of the late General Braddock, has committed the command of all His forces raised, and to be raised upon the Continent of North America to General Shirley, and has in a particular manner commanded him to protect your country and the Lands which your Forefathers have conquered, and are of right your Property[1] against all violence, and attempts of the French our common enemy, and to cultivate a strict Friendship between them[2] and you, and he takes the first opportunity of communicating this to you, by me, and of his assuring you of his intentions fully to follow His Majestys Instructions herein A Belt Black Wampum

Bretheren

General Shirley also desires me to acquaint you that he is to have a great army this insuing spring for the defence of your country, and the recovery of such parts of it as have been incroached upon by the French, and that in the mean time His Majestys Troops in the Province of New York shall be held in readiness to defend you against any attempts the French may make before the opening of the Campaign A Belt

Bretheren

On my return from New York, I received your kind Message and information of the design of the French attacking His Majestys Garrison at Oswego, I am extremely obliged to you for your friendly notice, which I immediately acquainted General Shirley and Gov Hardy with by express from Albany who by their answers to me are also greatly pleased with you for the concern you show, for our mutual safety; and I expect you will not only continue your vigilance but will also be ready (like unalterable Bretheren and friends) to use the Ax which I gave you last summer in conjunction with His Majesties Troops whenever called upon, either at Oswego, or any where else they may be imployed to the utmost of your Power, as it is His Majesties intention to stand by you and protect you as well as his own subjects against the insults or attempts of any enemy whatever. Beleive me, Bretheren this is the proper time to convince your father the Great King of England and your Bretheren, of your sincerity, and attachment to their Interest by your acting vigorously with His Troops Which I most heartily advise you to do as it is of the utmost consequence to our mutual Interest

A Large Belt.

Bretheren

I must now acquaint you that I propose meeting you at Oswego next spring, and desire you will join me in the invitation I shall send to your Friends and allies far & near to come to said meeting, when & where you and they shall receive a handsome present from your Father the Great King of England, who is very desirous of bringing all Nations worthy of His and your Alliance into the Covenant Chain at that meeting. I hope we shall then be able to make such an alliance, and settle matters in such a manner and so much to our mutual advantage, as will give reason to all concerned, and their Posterity to bless that happy day we met together

A Belt.

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[1] territories. *Johnson Manuscripts*, IV.

[2] him. *Ibid.* — Ed.

The Answer of the Six Nations 21 Feb^{y}. 1756.

PRESENT—Honble W^{m} Johnson Lieut^{t} Miller
Rev^{d} D^{r} Ogilvie Lieut^{t} Lee
Capt^{n} Beckwith Lieut^{t} Dunbar
Three Interpreters

Red Head Speaker

Brother Warraghiyagey

We meet you with the greatest pleasure at this fire Place and heartily join you in your wishes, that it may burn bright to the latest Posterity, let us mutually endeavour to collect such materials for the use of this our Fire, as may tend to support it in its full strength as long as the Sun and Moon endureth A Belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey

We acknowledge that this Tree was solemnly and judiciously planted for our mutual welfare, its Roots reach to the remotest Habitations of the Confederacy, and its Branches afford a friendly retreat to us, and all our allies and Dependants. Brother take a tender care of it, see that it be fed plentifully by freindly streams, that it may increase and spread its Branches so far that it may be a sufficient shade, not only for us, but also all other Nations which may hereafter come into our alliance A Belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey

We heartily rejoice with you upon our late success and assure you it gives us a solid pleasure A Belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey

We are extremely well pleased that our late conduct was so highly acceptable to the Great King our Father A Belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey

We assure you that we on our parts do with equal pleasure and friendship, join with you at this time of public commotion in brightening and strengthening the Covenant Chain that has so long united us together. Let us mutually and stedfastly adhere to our engagements, notwithstanding the crafty Intrigues of our perfidious and Blood thirsty enemies, let us vigorously endeavor to frustrate all their treacherous Designs that so we may reap the good effect of this our Union which has long been the object of their envy. With this Belt we do most solemnly renew the engagements of the Antient Covenant Chain A Belt

Brother Warraghiyagey

* by Onas is meant the Gov^{r} of Pensylvania

We always looked upon the Delawares as the more immediate care of * Onas, that they were within the Circle of his arms, We are therefore of opinion that he has not taken that friendly care of them, as he ought to do, and therefore our common Enemy hath taken the advantage of their[1] Neglect, for we can not but think that if there had been proper measures taken they would have still continued faithful friends to the British Interest. A Belt

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[1] his. *Johnson Manuscripts*, IV.—ED.

Brother Warraghiyagey

We are sensible of the care of the Great King in appointing General Shirley a successor to the late General Braddock and we are extreemly thankful for the particular Instructions he has given him to cultivate a strict friendship between us, and Him, and to protect our Lands, and recover those incroached upon by our common enemy. We hope and expect He will strictly adhere to his Matys Instructions, by protecting us from the bloody incursions of our treacherous enemies, and use his utmost endeavours to recover those Lands which they have clandestinely wrested out of our hands A Belt

Brother Warraghiyagey

We are very thankful for the assurances he gives us that the soldiers posted in this Province are to hold themselves in readiness to defend us upon any sudden emergency, for we assure you we are apprehensive that as the French find, that all their delusive, and wheedling arts have not had their desired effect, they may throw off their disguise and rush in upon us with a voracious fury like the wolves of the wilderness. A Belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey

We are pleased that the information we gave with respect of the designs of the French against Oswegoe has been acceptable to you and our Bretheren the English, and we promise for the future to keep up a strict vigilance The Ax has been frequently put into the hands of our Forefathers by our Bretheren the English, and they always used it with the greatest vigour, till it was taken out of their hands. We assure you that we intend punctually to conform to the bright and brave example they sett us, and we hope this will be a sufficient proof of our sincerity and fidelity to the great King our Father A Belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey

Your proposal of taking a few embers from the Fire at Onondaga and to kindle a fire at Oswego, and meeting us there this spring is highly acceptable to us, as we have good reason to think that the light and warmth of that fire will invite many nations to meet us there. And we make no doubt that the things you will propose to their consideration, will carry such light and conviction with them as will be sufficient to engage them to join in our confederacy, and we promise to use our utmost endeavors to accomplish that great event, and we doubt not but that our childrens children will have reason to remember that happy day. Brother we very cheerfully concur with this your proposal, as we are convinced you will propose nothing but what is for our mutual Interest A Belt

Brother Warraghiyagey

We have now opened our minds with Freedom & sincerity and we understand each other clearly let us mutually remember our engagements which we have again so solemnly renewed and if at any time our enemy should attack us, prove by your readiness to support & assist us, that you really love us, and we assure you we shall not be wanting on our parts to give proofs of the like fidelity, & friendship A Belt.

At a Meeting of the Six Nations. Feb. 23. 1756.

PRESENT— The Honble William Johnson
The Rev^{d} D^{r} Ogilvie
The Rev^{d} M^{r} Hawley
Capt^{n} Butler & other Indian officers
Three Interpreters

Bretheren

As it was [very] cold and late when I delivered you my speech a Friday night, I told you I would then postpone some things I had further to say. I now take this opportunity of communicating them to you.

In the first place I must recommend to you in the strongest manner as His Matys Troops will be passing, and repassing to Oswegoe next spring, that you endeavour all in your power to keep open the road thither, and not suffer any obstructions or stoppages to be thrown in the way by the enemy, as there is the greatest necessity now for our keeping that Road clear, and open being for our mutual Interest & safety A Belt.

Bretheren

Now is your time to have Forts, or Trading houses built in your countrys, while your father the great King of England has your Interest so much at Heart, if at any time you incline to have such built in any of your Castles only let me know it, and it shall be done

A Belt

Bretheren

Governor Hardy desired me to acquaint you, that he had a present from your Father the King for you, which he intends to deliver to you here, as soon as possible he can, & expects your attendance 3 Strings

Bretheren

The one great end proposed in calling you here at this season of the year, was to have that affair of the Delawares and Shawanese settled, but I am sorry to find you are not so hearty in the affair as I expected you would or as (at this important time) you ought to be I must therefore urge you most strenuously to fall upon, and settle this affair before you leave this place, as there is no time should be lost, besides your Bretheren of the several Governments with impatience wait the result of this meeting, on which let me tell you much depends

A large Belt

Bretheren

It is my kind concern for your Welfare that leads me to propose the following advice to you, I have your happiness very much at Heart and most zealously wish your prosperity, therefore I conjure you to observe and follow the friendly hints I am going to give you

1st Endeavour to bring as many nations of Indians under your alliance as possibly you can, and try all means without loss of time to settle the minds of all such as are wavering, and those who are now ready to rebel against you, if you can accomplish this then, let your study be ever after to keep up that correspondence, faith and Friendship with them which is absolutely necessary between Friends, and allies, and without which neither friendship nor alliance can long subsist

2ndly I would have you to adhere inviolably, to all the engagements you have or shall enter into with your Bretheren the English who have always been your stedy friends, and are determined to continue ever such, besides they are the ablest, and will be the readiest to protect and defend you against any attempts of an enemy, and moreover can, and will supply you, and all your allies with the necessarys of life at a cheaper rate than the French can

3rdly Be not any longer wheedled, blindfolded and imposed on by the artfull speeches of the French, for their Tongues are full of deceit, do not imagine the fine Cloaths &c they give you is out of love, or regard for. you, No, they are only as a bait to catch a fish, they mean to enslave you thereby and entail that curse upon your children after you, you[1] will have reason to repent the day you begot them, be assured they are your inveterate and implacable enemies, and only wish for a difference to arise between you, and us that then they might put you out of their way by cutting you of the face of the earth

4thly Fall upon a method of collecting each Nation into a compact body, where you have good Land and a good situation there fortifie your castle in such a manner, as you may be able to defend yourselves against any number with small arms & above all things be unanimous in your councils, and also in the Field

5thly If at any time your Bretheren the English or any of your Indian Allies are injured or threatned from any quarter the whole body of the confederacy should rise and endeavour to bring about an honorable accommodation, but if your enemy should not hear to reason but still persist in acting unjustly, then the whole body should as one man join their arms against the enemy, by which means you will always be able to bring them to what terms may be thought proper. you will in that state be a terror to the French, who now (well knowing your unsettled divided disposition) at every turn of the wind use threats, and menaces against you. Be not afraid of them, cleave to your Bretheren the English and they can not hurt you

If you duly observe the[se] wholesome admonitions, you will again become numerous, and retrieve your pristine Fame. then the very name of the Six Nations and their Allies will be a terror to their enemies, and their arms will carry conquest with them as heretofore

But Bretheren & Friends if you continue any longer in your past lethargic, and supine state, and neglect this my friendly advice, and ernest desire I greatly fear you will sooner, or later have cause to repent it, and wish too late you had followed it. Let all your youngest People hear what I say, and your men and women seriously consider it, and let your and their memory witness for me that I have given you all this timely, & wholesome advice.

Take this pipe to your great Council Chamber, at Onondaga, let it hang their in view, and should you be weavering in your minds at any time, take and smoke out of it, and think of my advice given with it and you will recover and think properly—

Gave the largest Pipe in America made on purpose

As it is late now I shall deliver you the Present I have got for you tomorrow morning by which time I hope to have your definitive answer to these Points I now spoke to you upon

Ended

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[1] who will, &c. *Johnson Manuscripts*, IV. — Ed.

The Answer of the Six Nations Feb 24th 1756

Red Head Speaker

Present— The Houble William Johnson
The Revd Dr Ogilvie
The Revd Mr Hawley
Captn Butler and other Indian officers
Three Interpreters

Brother Warraghiyagey

You have very seasonably put us in mind of that superiority which we by a series of conquests have obtained over the Delawares Shawanese and others We are sensible of it, and therefore no sooner did you send us the shocking tidings of their treacherous and barbarous conduct but we looked upon ourselves nearly concerned to interpose. We immediately dispatched a message to them, to enquire into the cause of this their unparrallelled Behaviour we backed this with a second message with equal warmth but both proving abortive We obtained an interview by the means of our Bretheren of Oneida. At this meeting we reminded them of their subordination, we shook them by the Head, and demanded the reason of their conduct, we put them in mind, how contrary this Behaviour was to the Covenant subsisting between the confederacy and the English. We told them that our latest Posterity would have reason to curse their Actions, and that it would give our Bretheren reason to suspect us [all] of treachery, while we so basely abuse the confidence they repose in us. We again and again desired they would immediately change their behavior, at least that they would suspend Hostilities till they hear from us at our Return from this Meeting. They seemed sensible of their fault, and promised they would cease committing any further Hostilities

A String

Brother Warrighiyagey

We look upon you as one of our own body, and therefore as you have out of sincere regard to our common welfare pressed upon us to put an effectual stop to the Ravages and Devastations made by our Nephews the Delawares and Shawanese. We solemnly promise in the name of the Sachems & Warriors of the five Nations, that we will use our utmost endeavours to put a speedy and effectual stop to these unhappy Proceedings It is the firm resolution of the whole confederacy to conform themselves intirely to your reasonable request in this important Point. But as the Mohawks are the head of our confederacy we leave the management of that affair intirely to them. We sincerly wish that the Great Spirit who governs all things, may succeed them in this important undertaking, as it will greatly contribute to our mutual happiness & strength this confirmed with a large Belt

Brother Warraghiyagey

The Mississagaes acknowledge a message sent them by General Shirley last year, giving them an Invitation to meet him at Oswegoe they answered that the season of the year was too far advanced, to admit of a meeting then, but that they promise to come early in the Spring, and be attentive to what their Bretheren the English have to say, they desired, that this string might be kept at Onondaga, least it might be intercepted by the French, for should they be acquainted with their design of meeting the English they feared they would fall upon and destroy them A String

Brother Warraghiyagey

Be attentive to what we now propose: they are the real sentiments of the five Nations, not merely the sounds of their Breath, but the genuine Resolutions of their Hearts Look upon this Belt [This Belt was the largest ever given, upon it was wrought the sun by way of the emblem of Light and some figures representing the Six Nations: it was intended to signify that they now saw objects in their proper Light and that they were fully convinced of the truth of every thing proposed] as a pledge of our inviolable attachment to you, and of our unshaken resolution of joining you in all your measures. Our determinations are founded upon clear conviction, as clear as that Sun that now shines in the firmament. We shall send this Belt to the Senecas that from thence it may be conveyed to the remotest nations, as an emblem of the happiness we enjoy by our union at the same time kindly inviting them to come in and join our Covenant Chain. Brother you may depend upon this as our Resolution which we will put into immediate Execution

What you have said with regard to the Trade, we look upon as a convincing proof of your love and affection to us, and it gives us pleasure that it now becomes a matter of serious consideration with you. We are sensible of your ability to supply us with all the necessaries of Life cheaper and better than the French can possibly do, indeed Brother there is nothing you should more seriously attend to, as it would greatly conduce to cement that friendship that subsists between us, and would be the most likely means of bringing in the most remote Nations to an acquaintance and Union with us A Prodigious large Belt

> As the General had frequently insisted upon knowing their Resolution with respect to the Ravages committed by the Delawares &c this Paragraph is intended as an apology for not making their answer sooner

Brother Warraghiyagey

You have most ernestly and frequently pressed us to accommodate that unhappy Breach between the Delawares and our Bretheren the English our delay did not proceed from backwardness on our parts but from the great sence we had of its importance we hope you have received satisfaction on that Head, by the great Belt just now delivered with so much solemnity and sincerity

Brother Warraghiyagey

You have acquainted us that the Great King our Father is resolved to defend our Country, and to recover such parts of it as the French have encroached upon also to protect us to the utmost of their[1] power, by erecting Forts for our safety, and defence. We are greatful for this Instance of his goodness but have not yet concluded upon any thing with regard to the latter

Brother Warraghiyagey

You have informed us that the Governor of New York has a present for us from the Great King our Father, we are thankful for it but are afraid as it comes so soon upon the back of this meeting it will be inconvenient for our aged people to attend but our Warriors shall come upon that occasion

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[1] his. *Johnson Manuscripts*, IV. — Ed.

Brother Warraghiyagey

As you have given us a large Pipe to be a constant memorial of the important advice you have given us, when you are dead and gone and to smoak out of, at our publick meeting place, when we jointly and maturely reflect upon our Engagements, We assure you we shall hang it up in our council Chamber and make proper use of it upon all occasions. We likewise beg that you on your part will likewise seriously consider your engagements and faithfully perform them

The General concluded with the following words

Bretheren

I do not think you have been so explicit with regard to what I proposed to you, concerning your keeping open and clear the road to Oswegoe, as I could wish. they made the following apology

Brother Warraghiyagey

With respect to the article relative to the keeping open the Road to Oswegoe, we imagined our answer was contained in our general reply wherein we assured you we would support and assist each other upon all occasions, but as you did not look upon that sufficient. We now assure you that we shall punctually conform to your desire herein

Bretheren. The present waits your acceptance As there has been frequent complaints with respect to the division of the Presents given at these public meetings. It is my ernest desire that they may be so divided as to prevent all jealousy and complaints. then delivered them a very handsome publick present which together with the private Gifts to the several Cheifs and Sachems amounted to £1085. 9. 8½ York Currency

At a Meeting of the Six Nations Feb 25th 1756.

Red Head Speaker

Brother Warraghiyagey

It was yesterday agreed on by us, that our oldest brother the Mohawk, should take upon him to settle that unhappy affair between the Delawares, and our Bretheren the English, but on more mature deliberation (having the thing so much at Heart) we have now unanimously agreed that several Delegates from the Six Nations should use their utmost endeavors to accommodate that Difference and depend upon it we shall loose no time for we will immediately despatch a message to them by the Skaniadaradighroona's and Oneidas, and desire them to meet us at Otseningo[1] where the Council is to be held A Belt

Brother Warraghiyagey

We have agreeable to your repeated desires, kept a good look out and daily watch the motions of the French We must acquaint you that they have lately sent a Message to our Bretheren the Caiyougas to let them know their resolution of attacking Oswegoe, and desire their opinion upon it hereupon three of their Sachems, and seven of their young men, are gone to Niagara with a design to forbid the French attacking Oswegoe, or any Indians (they may see) Joining them. We daily expect their Return, when you shall immediately hear what they have done A Belt

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[1] now Binghamton, Broome county, N. Y. *Guy Johnson's Map of the Country of the Six Nations.* — Ed.

Bretheren of the Six Nations

I greatly approve of the alteration you have made in the method of accommodating that unhappy breach, between the Delawares, and your Bretheren the English, as it must certainly have greater weight now as it is to be the act of the whole Body, and the more likely to succeed, I look upon this as a very considerable proof of the unanimity and zeal that you have expressed at this present Meeting. A Belt

Bretheren

I must repeat to you that I am extreemly pleased at and much obliged to you for the kind intelligence you have given me of the designs of the French attacking Oswegoe and desire you will continue that Vigilance, and let me have every information you can relative to the proceedings, and motions of the French, as nothing can contribute more to the defeating all their designs, than our having certain and good intelligence. I wish your Bretheren of Cayouga may succeed in their intentions of endeavouring to prevent any Indians they may see) joining the French, but as they (the French) can do nothing without their assistance, I doubt of their success, however it is good to try what can be done in that case. but be that as it will, we do not fear what the French can do, neither should you, after the strong and many assurances we have given you of His Majestys protection and friendship A Belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey

We are now ready to return home, as all affairs for which we came here are settled to our satisfaction, and we hope to yours. We shall finish by assuring you we will strictly act up to every thing agreed upon at this meeting [and hope you will do the same.]

So ended the Congress

At a private Meeting of the Oneida Nation Feb^{ry}. 25. 1756.

Kanaghquiesa their speaker spoke as follows

Brother Warraghiyagey

We some time ago applied to General Shirley to have a Fort built for the security of our Castle we now acquaint you with our unanimous Resolution of having one, and should be glad it could be accomplished, as soon as possible and that you will be particularly careful in the choice of those whom you imploy in that work, and to charge them strictly by, no means, to bring any spirituous liquors among our people, as they are very ungovernable and turbulent when intoxicated by Liquor. A String of Wampum

Bretheren

As I have general orders to build Forts for the safety and Protection of any of our Bretheren of the six Nations I do with the greatest cheerfulness comply with your request, and shall immediately employ proper persons for that purpose I am convinced it must be the fault of those people whom General Shirley imployed that it was not done sooner for he had given orders for that purpose so long ago as last october

Then the Tuskarora Cheif spoke

Brother Warraghiyagey

We have some time since sett up the Stockadoes for the defence of our Castle, as we were, and are still apprehensive of the French acting against us in a Hostile manner, We as yet want some Block Houses to make it the more defenceable, and some soldiers to garrison it, which we hope will be readily granted us. We acknowledge the receipt of the swivels, and ammunition you so seasonably sent us for which we return you our hearty thanks.

Bretheren

I shall represent your case to General Shirley, who I doubt not will readily grant you a sufficient number of men, to Garrison your Fort, and as to the Block Houses which you desire, when I go to Oswegoe shall point out a proper situation for them, and then order them to be built.

At a Meeting of the Ganuskago Indians Feb 25th 1756.

Brother Warraghiyagey

We the Warriors of Ganuskago[1] upon our arrival informed you we were come down merely to see you and hear your words at this publick meeting As we are young and unexperienced and have never been at any meeting with a Governor we hope you will make a kind allowance for our want of ability in speaking, and we beg leave to assure you, that the reason of our never attending a meeting before, was not the want of affection to the English but was entirely owing to our remote situation, which prevented a timely and proper notice

Brother Warraghiyagey

As goods are vastly dear and ordinary in our parts, upon our determination to come to this meeting, We thought proper to bring some skins and firs with us in order to purchase some necessarys for ourselves and Familys and we beg you will as a brother direct us where we may be supplied with the best and upon the most reasonable Terms

Brother Warraghiyagey

We beg leave to assure you nothing can give us more satisfaction then the speech we heard you deliver the Six Nations on our arrival, as it contained nothing but what was quite right, and has a direct tendency to our Welfare. We think our time well spent in coming down, for if we had not probably we should not have heard all you have said, for we are convinced from what we heard you now say that our Sachems heretofore, have smothered the greatest part of your former advices. and we assure you we shall now spread your advice among all our people who are considerably numerous — Threw down a Pack [of] Skins

Brother Warraghiyagey

As we are warriors we are not acquainted with the ceremonials of Publick Meetings, and therefore express what we have to say in a narrow compass We have no more to offer at present and hope you will excuse the trouble we have given you on this occasion

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[1] See *supra*, p. 57. — Ed.

Bretheren

I have given attention to your words, and shall seriously consider your desire, but can not give you an answer until tomorrow. I choose to deliberate maturely upon every thing that I say, because my word once given is as binding as cement to a stone

Brother Warraghiyagey

We return you thanks for your kind promise of considering our desire, and as we see you are crouded and full of business of more importance we shall with patience wait your Leisure

Feb 26th 1756.

Bretheren

I told you last night that I had paid due attention to what you had said and would consider your request and give you an answer this day — In the first place I assure you it gives me no small pleasure to hear that my speech was so agreeable to you, and that you would acquaint all your nations with the contents of it. I beg you will not fail in this particular as it points out what will make you a happy People if duly attended to, which from your unanimity and zeal at this conference, I have no reason to doubt I am sorry you have not been duly invited to former meetings agreeable to my orders, and promise that for the future you shall have proper notice, and I hope you will be always ready, to assist us both in the Council, and the field, with all the cheifs and Warriors of that castle who shall be treated as friends and Bretheren

Bretheren

In the next place as I have no goods to sell [myself] I will take all possible care that you are not imposed upon in your Trade at Schenectady — I shall give directions to Mr Stevens the interpreter to assist you and see that justice be done you in every respect for I have a great regard for your castle and as a proof of it. I present you with these goods, giving them at the same time [a hand]some present, and three silver Gorgets to three of the principal warriors viz Tarrawarriacks, Tá'hun'nun'sira'wé and Kindarunty who was the Cheif

Brother Warraghiyagey

We return you our hearty thanks for all your kind expressions of affection and love shown to us at this time, and we in return assure you that you may depend upon our sincerity and readiness, to serve you whenever you call upon us, and you know very well that whatever Warriors promise is sacred

Bretheren

I return you thanks for your sincere professions of Friendship and so parted

At a Meeting of the Onnondaga's Feb 27th 1756

Brother Warraghiyagey

We the Onnondagas very readily embrace this opportunity offered us of having a Fort built for the protection of our Castle, and upon our return home shall choose a proper situation for it. As soon as the season of the year will permit, we beg you will not delay to send proper workmen to build it. As we have for some time past had an acquaintance with Lieut Mills, we should be glad to have him as our officer, and as William Printup undertands the

Indian Language [well,] it would be agreeable to us to have him reside with us as a smith, and at the same time to serve as an Interpreter between the officer and us

Bretheren

I shall acquaint Gênll Shirley with your desire and I make no doubt he will comply with it. The Fort shall be built with all possible expedition and whatever officer is posted in it, will no doubt have particular orders to be carefull of your safety, and to treat you with all the marks of affection & Friendship

Ended

At a Meeting of the Senecas Feb 27th 1756.

Tagchsady Speaker

Brother Warraghiyagey

Our brother the Govr of New York was so good last year to promise us a smith, to mend our arms and Tools, and that he should reside among us untill the Corn was a foot high, but he labouring under the misfortune of a sore leg, was obliged to leave us some time sooner We acknowledge you sent us a smith last summer, with whom we are well pleased and beg you will continue him with us untill the Corn is a foot high, then he may come down for the necessarys he may have occasion for, and then we hope he will soon return to us again

Bretheren

I was present when the Governor of New York last year promised to send you a Smith, which he accordingly did and one agreeable to you, if he did not stay there the time appointed the Governor was not culpable; as he could not be supposed to know any thing of his coming away. I am very glad you are pleased with the smith I sent you last year & as you are desirous he should remain there until your corn is such a length. I very readily agree to it, and shall order him accordingly to stay that time

Ended

Feb 27th 1756

At a private Meeting of the Sachems and Warriors of the Conajoharee Castle, Abraham the Great Hendricks brother Speaker

Brother Warraghiyagey

We the Sachems and Warriors of Conajoharee take this opportunity to say something to you relative to our own affairs, as your great trouble is now mostly over

Brother Warraghiyagey

When we were first allarmed with these publick Commotions you were so kind at our request to promise us a Fort for the protection of our Castle, we acknowledge you have punctually performed your promise, so that at the time when the confederacy were coming down last summer it was compleatly finished. Mr Fry on hearing of our application for men to Garrison it, applied to you in behalf of his son that he might be the Commander thereof, you answered him that you would consult the Indians whether it was agreeable or no, (which you did) in answer to which we declared he was agreeable to us, and that it would be more acceptable to have those with whom we were acquainted than strangers

Brother Warraghiyagey

We were mistaken in our choice, for alltho' he made us the fairest promises, that he would (during our absence) take care of our Lands and the crop then in the Field, he was alltogether deficient in the performance by which neglect we entirely lost our crop, in this malancholy scituation, we make our application to you, assureing you that without your assistance in this article we must greatly suffer

Brother Warraghiyagey

We the Warriors of this Castle look upon ourselves as under obligation always to be ready at a call upon any emergency, and therefore as we can not at present, fall upon any means to retrieve our loss, we look to you for support. Our fences having also suffered much in our absence we beg your assistance in repairing them

Brother Warraghiyagey

As soon as you informed us that you was ready for war, we gave you a sufficient proof of our regard for you in our readiness to attend you. We have also at your request stopped all our Warriors for some years past from making any excursions against the Flatt Heads and turned our weapons against our common enemy agreeable to your desire in short we hope we have upon all occasions given you reason to think that we have a sincere regard for you

Brother Warraghiyagey

Our spirits are now pretty much sunk at the loss of so many of our principal Sachems, and Warriors who fell at Lake George. we look to you to raise them up agreeable to our Customs

Brother Warraghiyagey

At the request of the upper Nations, without our consent, the selling of Strong Liquors is entirely forbid we have no design to contradict any thing they do, but only request that we may have leave to procure a little for our comfort. 3 Strings Wampum

Bretheren

It gives me great concern with you that the person who had the care of your Fort, and Castle had (in your absence) neglected the charge I gave him of both, but as he was your own choice there is the less to be said, however I shall reprimand him for it severely. As I am fully convinced of your Loyalty to his Majesty, and readiness at all times to follow my directions, you shall not want any assistance in my power to supply your wants, and contribute to your happiness, as a proof of which I shall now order you three hundred skipple of Corn for your support, and should that fall short, let me know it and you shall have a further supply untill you are able to raise your own Grain, I shall also give orders that your Fences be immediately repaired And as for you Warriors I shall send you a present by the first opportunity worthy the singular Service you have done your Country with me last Campaign

3 Strings Wampum.

Bretheren

As I have nothing more at Heart than the welfare and happiness of the people of your castle who have always been our steady friends. I am sensibly affected and sincerely sympathize with you upon the great loss you have sustained by the death of two of your principal Sachems and likewise of some of your young men at Lake George. We should comfort ourselves with the thoughts that these friends of ours who dropped that day, died bravely in their countrys cause, and that their memory will be honored to the end of time As it is necessary for us, to supply as well and as soon as we can the place of the two great Sachems lost that day I hope you have considered of proper persons for that important trust, if you have I should be glad you would produce them that I may give them the proper marks of distinction, and enter their names among the rest of the Sachems

Brother Warraghiyagey

We the Sachems and Warriors of the Conajoharee Castle are much obliged to you, for your friendly and good opinion of us. We assure you we shall daily endeavor to merit it [more] and more, by convincing proofs of our Loyalty on any occasion

Brother Warraghiyagey

We the Sachems and Warriors return you our most hearty thanks, for your kind and well timed supply of Corn, and promise of a further supply if necessay; the repairing of our fences will likewise be of the greatest service to us, as without them, we can raise no grain for the ensueing year. this care of us in our distress, adds greatly to the many obligations we already lye under and can never be forgot

Brother Warraghiyagey

We the Warriors of Conajoharee are extreemly pleased with the favorable opinion you have of our Behavior in the late action at Lake George, which alone animates us much, and greatly eleviates our minds, notwithstanding they were so much depressed. We are extreemly obliged to you for the present you intend us, and shall receive it with the greatest gratitude

Brother Warraghiyagey

We take your anxiety for supplying the place for the two great Sachems lost, who cheifly managed our affairs, as a singular mark of your regard for our welfare. We present you one of our most capable men to succeed our deceased brother Tarrachioris of the tribe of the Turtle and hope our choice may meet your approbation. we have not as yet fixed upon one to succeed the great Hendrick, when we do shall immediately acquaint you.

3 Strings Wampum

Bretheren

As a proof of my regard for your choice, I now in the presence of your whole Castle, invest him with all the powers of a Sachem and put on him those necessary marks of distinction which I wish him long life to wear

Ended

The Aughquagey Indians before they parted made the following speech Feb 28th 1756.

Adam their Speaker

Brother Warraghiyagey

We are now ready to return, having heard all You had to say, which we assure you has made so deep an impression on our minds as not to be forgot. We would only beg leave to desire one favor of you before we go, that is, to have a tradeing house built in our country, and a constant supply of goods, which would not only add greatly to our happiness but would encrease our numbers, as it would draw Indians from all parts within a hundred miles of us, to settle among us, if you would gratifie us in this you will greatly add to the many favors already received A Belt

Bretheren

I have so good an opinion, and so many convincing proofs of your Loyalty to the Great King your Father, and affection to your Bretheren the English, that I have not the least reason to doubt your sincerity, nor the least objection to building you a trading house as soon as that unhappy affair is settled between the Indians of the lower settlements on your River, and your Bretheren the English, which I hope will be very soon

they returned their hearty thanks & so parted

Ended here

A true copy
examined by me
Robt Adems
Depty Sêcry

Note.—The words within brackets in the above Document, are added from the copy in the *Johnson Manuscripts*, IV., in in the State Library. — Ed.

John Van Seice to Sir William Johnson.

[New-York Papers, [illegible], No. 40.]

Onondaga March 6th 1756

Sir

This is to let you know that last Friday there was ten prisoners taken at Oswegoe on the East side of the River about a mile from the Fort, but not one killed, all from Sir William Pepperills Regiment it was done by the Oswegatchi Indians there was a great party of them, as I did hear from our Indians. as soon as I had the news, I did send a letter to Coll Mercer but it was all over when the Indian got there, so I had a letter from Coll Mercer and he is very sorry for the loss. He writes me that his people are dying very fast and no provisions for the men, so that they must perish to death. Sir it is the opinion of our Indians that the Oswegatchie Indians will do all the mischeif they ever can at Oswegoe, and so Coll Mercer is very much concerned. He says Sir that if there does not come Provisions to him against the 25th of March they must give it over. I do write to you as he does write to me, Sir in great haste for the Indians desired me just now to write to you. So no more at present but

I am, Sir,
Your most obedient
Humble Servant
John Van Seice.
Interptr

To Sir Wm Johnson Bart.

Time of Danger, I shall let you know the time when I shall meet them and desire You to be present, that I may speak to you at the same time. —

In the mean time I desire you will be of good behaviour, and remain where you are.

Given under my hand and the Lesser Seal of the said Province at Philadelphia the Fourth day of December Anno Domini 1755

Robert Hunter Morris

At a Council held at Philada. the 8th of December 1755.

Present,

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esqr. Lieutenant Governor &ca.

Benjamin Shoemaker	Richard Peters	Esqrs:
Robert Strettel	Thomas Cadwalader	
Joseph Turner	William Till	
Benjamin Chew	John Mifflin	

The Governor acquainted the Council that he received last night by Express from General Shirley now at New York a very pressing Letter to meet him immediately there to assist at the Congress of the several Governors &ca. for settling the plan of Operation for the next Campaign & that he proposes to set out to day for New York, and recommends it to the Council to take care in his absence to preserve the Peace of the Province &ca.

The Captains of the Vessels employed by Governor Lawrence to carry the Neutral French out of Nova Scotia having Landed them at the nearest place to the Pest House demanded their Discharge, & such as produced the proper printed receits had their Discharges this day delivered to them. The Importations are as follows.

Imported to Philada. from Nova Scotia in the Sloop

Hannah,	Richard Adams	Master....	137 French persons
Sloop Three Friends	James Carlisle	Master....	156 Do.
Sloop Swan	Jonathan Lovell	Master....	161 Do.
		Total	454 French Persons

Charles Broadhead of Smithfield Township came to Town on the 29th Novemr. last and on the same day acquainted the Governor that he was just come from Wyomink, that the Indians was very uneasy there & had charged him to haste to the Governor of Philadelphia, & delivered him their Message which was as follows —

A Meſsage to the Governor, from the Indians at Wyomink by Mr. Broadhead

Wyomink 9th November 1755

When the Indians met it was about 10 o'Clock at Night, by reason I wanted to return as soon as I could.

They gave me two Strings of Wampum to carry to the Govr. with these words

1st Brother, "We are glad to see you, & you have done well that you are come such a great way to us, and you see that we live here still in peace. We look upon that what we have heard from our Grandfather, when we was last in Philadelphia Now that his Arms was always stretchid out, & would when Danger came inclose us his Children in them.

2d. Brother Our Grandfather whose hands is stretched out towards us, has sent here a great man to us, which should treat with us, and tell us his Children what we should do. When we was last in Philada. we saw the great man Colonel Johnson, who told us we should return to Wyomink and be still & that he would speak to our Uncles the 5 Nations, & then he would send us word what we should do. And then the Governor told us that if Col: Johnson did not send us word he would; and since that time we have heard nothing neither from Col. Johnson, the Governor, nor our Uncles. so we dont know what to say, or do, but to be still, and now we hear the Hatchets are a flying about our Ears, which puts us in Fears, & makes us believe we are in great Danger, so we can say nothing more but to be still till we have an answer, & then they offered me a Guard to go with me a part of the way back again.

And the Governor having on perusal of this Meſsage thought proper to consult Charles Broadhead about what was proper to be said to those Indians, he gave his opinion in writing which is as follows.

The Opinion of Charles Broadhead in relation of the Indians settled at Wyomink on the East branch of Sasquehannah. These Indians consists of Delawares, Shawonese & Minisinks, and it is my opinion they are very true to the English Interest at this time tho' how long they may so continue without receiving the Hatchet from us is hard to Determine. This they seem very fond of shewing great willingneſs to, to Join with us against the French & their Indians, the advantage of which to us is very obvious, the number of Warriors at Wyomink the 9th Instant was about 80, but much larger Bodies of them were higher up the River & Branches, many of which I immagine would join with those at Wyomink on receiving proper encouragements from us. If they could be prevailed on to come down among the Inhabitants on the other side of the Blue hills, which I think could be accomplished with care taken to have proper provisions made for their Wives and Children &ca. this Winter and an officer or Officers appointed them, well acquainted with their Customs & Language. It is my opinion they would be of the greatest service to the Setlers beyond the Mountains being always ready on the least notice to oppose the Enemy should they attack any Settlements in that part of the Country. They may I think entirely protect the Settlements from Delaware to the West Branch & perhaps to Schuylkill ranging to the Valey between the Kittalany Hills and the second Mountain.

Decemr. 3rd. 1755.

And on considering the Indians Message, and Mr. Broadhead's Opinion the following Message was sent to them, and the care thereof committed to Aaron Dupui and the said Charles Broadhead with the following Instructions.

A Message from Governor Morris to the Indians living at Wyomink &ca.

L.S. The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor & Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania and Counties of Newcastle Kent and Sussex upon Delaware.

To the Indians living at Wyomink, Nescopecka and Shamokin Greeting

Brethren,

The people of this Province have always considered you as their own Flesh & Blood, and it being a time of Danger, are anxious to know the state and condition of your Affairs & to give you the strongest assurances of the Continuance of their Affection for you.

Brethren,

I have many things to say to you which concern your safety & our mutual Security, that will require us without loss of Time to see one another and to confer together; & have therefore sent these Messengers to take you by the hand and conduct you to John Harris's on the River Sasquehanah, where I have kindled a Council Fire & expect to see you there on the first day of January, which will be the beginning of the next Moon.

Brethren,

Be not afraid to come; I engage on the part of this Government that you shall not be hurt, and if you are apprehensive of any Danger happening to your Wives and Children in your absence, I desire you will bring them along with you & I will protect them and take good care of them.

Brethren,

I mean this Invitation to come to Council, not only for you but for all the Indians that are in your Neighbourhood & desire you will send Messengers forthwith to invite them to it in my Name; and I expect a large number will accompany you as I have many matters to communicate of very great Consequence to all the Indians.

Brethren,

Hitherto we have not been a Warlike people, but we have seen our Error, and are determined to act with Vigour, and let the Indians see we are capable of defending ourselves against our Enemy's & affording our Friends and Allies the Protection they have a right to demand of us in virtue of the Treaties subsisting between us.

Brethren,

I desire you will not hearken to any Stories that may be told you to the prejudice of us your Brethren; We are your hearty Friends; We propose to give you the strongest Marks of our Confidence, & whatever you hear to the contrary, give no Credit to it.

Brethren,

A Company of Warriors of the neighbouring Province of Jersey found some Indians near a place where mischief had been just done by the Enemy, and not knowing but they might have been concerned in that mischief they took them up and confined them. As soon as I heard of it I sent a Message to the Governor of Jersey, and desired him to send them to me; and you

you may be aſsured they shall be well taken care of, and if I find them innocent, I will bring them with me to the Congreſs. Given under my hand & the Leſser Seal of the said Province at Philadelphia the eighth day of December in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred & fifty five.

Robert Hunter Morris

The Instructions from Governor Morris, to Aaron Dupui Esqr. Mr. Benj. Shoemaker & Mr. Charles Broadhead, relating to the foregoing Meſsage to the Indians

Instructions of the Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor & Commander in Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania and Counties of Newcastle Kent & Suſsex upon Delaware.

To Aaron Dupui Esqr. Mr. Benjamin Shoemaker, & Mr. Charles Broadhead of the County of Northampton. —

Gentlemen

I give you the Charge of a Meſsage to the Susquehannah Indians the purport of which is to invite them to meet at John Harris's on the First of January next, where I intend to hold a Council with all the friendly Indians I can collect together, and as it ought to be delivered as soon as poſsible, and you have kindly offered your service, I must desire you will not give it the least delay, but, taking with you such prudent Persons as you shall judge neceſsary for your safety, proceed directly to Wyomink. —

If they receive the Invitation in good part, and you find them well disposed to us and willing to come, You are then to take Care that Indian Meſsengers be dispatched with the Invitation and String of Wampum to such other Indians as can attend that Meeting. —

You are to send a Meſsenger immediately either Indian or White man to Philadelphia to acquaint me of the Time that they may be expected at Harris's. —

In case the Indians cannot be got together or offer good reasons that they cannot be ready to come with you directly, endeavour to persuade as many of their Chiefs as you can to come, and desire the rest may follow as soon as they conveniently can.

But if they give you a cool reception and decline the Invitation altogether, then you are to endeavour to discover their true Sentiments & future Designs by the safest and most prudent methods in your Power, but if these have not the desired effect, then you are to demand an explicit & positive Declaration, whether they will join with us or no.

As soon as you receive a determined answer either favourable or otherwise, dispatch a trusty and proper Meſsenger to Mr. Horsfield at Bethlehem, who has my orders to send it forward by Expreſs to this City. —

You are to keep an exact Diary or Journal of your proceedings & make report to me thereof at your Return.

You are to conduct & accompany the Indians from Wyomink to Harris's Ferry, & to take care that they be well treated, & that none of the White People molest or give them any uneasineſs in their Journey, and when you draw near to our back Settlements, You are to dispatch a Meſsenger to me at Harris's Ferry to acquaint me when I am to expect them there.

You are to take with you a sufficient Quantity of the best White Wampum to give at the delivery of the Meſsage.

Robert Hunter Morris

Philadelphia 8th Decemr. 1755.

At a Council held at Philada. the 8th of December, 1755.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esqr. Lieutenant Governor, &ca.

Benjamin Shoemaker,
Robert Strettell,
Joseph Turner,
Benjamin Chew,
Richard Peters,
Thomas Cadwalader,
William Till,
John Mifflin,
Esqrs.

The Governor acquainted the Council that he received last night by Express from General Shirley, now at New York, a very pressing Letter to meet him immediately there to assist at the Congress of the several Governors, &ca., for settling the plan of operation for the next Campaign, & that he proposes to set out to-day for New York, and recommends it to the Council to take care in his absence to preserve the Peace of the Province, &ca.

The Captains of the Vessels employed by Governor Lawrence to carry the Neutral French out of Nova Scotia having Landed them at the nearest place to the Pest House, demanded their discharge, & such as produced the proper printed receits had their discharges this day delivered to them. The Importations are as follows:

Imported to Philada. from Nova Scotia in the Sloop Hannah, Richard Adams, Master,	137	French Persons.
Sloop Three Friends, James Carlisle, Master,	156	Do.
Sloop Swan, Jonathan Lovell, Master,	161	Do.
Total,	454	French Prsons.

Charles Broadhead, of Smithfield Township, came to Town on the 29th Novemr. last, and on the same day acquainted the Governor that he was just come from Wyomink, that the Indians was very uneasy there, & had charged him to hasten to the Governor of Philadelphia, & delivered him their Message, which was as follows:

A Message to the Governor from the Indians at Wyomink by Mr. Broadhead.

"Wyomink, 9th November, 1755.

"When the Indians met it was about 10 o'Clock at Night, by reason I wanted to return as soon as I could.

"They gave me two Strings of Wampum to carry to the Govr. with these words:

"'1st. Brother: We are glad to see you, & you have done well that you are come such a great way to us, and you see that we live here still in Peace. We look upon that what we have heard from our Grand-Father when he was last in Philadelphia; How that his

Arms was always stretched out, & would when Danger came inclose us his Children in them.

"'2d. Brother: Our Grandfather, whose hands is stretched out toward us, has sent here a great man to us, which should treat with us and tell us his Children what we should do. When we was last in Philad$^{a.}$ we saw the great man, Colonel Johnson, who told us we should return to Wyomink and be still, & that he would speak to our Uncles the 5 Nations, & then he would send us word what we should do. And then the Governor told us that if Col. Johnson did not send us word he would, and since that time we have heard nothing neither from Col. Johnson, the Governor, nor our Uncles, so we don't know what to say or do but to be still, and now we hear the Hatchets are a flying about our Ears, which puts us in Fears & makes us believe we are in great Danger, so we can say nothing more, but be still till we have an answer;' & then they offered me a Guard to go with me a part of the way back again."

And the Governor having on perusal of this Message thought proper to Consult Charles Broadhead about what was proper to be said to those Indians, he gave his opinion in writing, which is as follows:

"The Opinion of Charles Broadhead in relation of the Indians settled at Wyomink on the East Branch of Sasquehannah: These Indians consist of Delawares, Shawonese, & Minisinks, and it is my opinion they are very true to the English Interest at this time, tho' how long they may so continue without receiving the Hatchet from us is hard to determine. This they seem very fond of shewing great willingness to, to Join with us against the French & their Indians, the advantage of which to us is very obvious. The number of Warriors at Wyomink the 9th Instant was about 30, but much larger Bodies of them were higher up the River & Branches, many of which I immagine would join with those at Wyomink on receiving proper encouragements from us. If they could be prevailed on to come down among the Inhabitants on the other side of the Blue Hills, which I think could be accomplished with care taken to have proper Provisions made for their Wives and Children, &$^{ca.}$ this Winter, and an Officer or Officers appointed them well acquainted with their Customs & Language, It is my opinion they would be of the greatest service to the Settlers beyond the Mountains—being always ready on the least notice to oppose the Enemy should they attack any Settlements in that part of the Country. They may, I think, entirely protect the Settlements from Delaware to the West Branch, & perhaps to Schuylkill, ranging to the Valley between the Killalny Hills, and the second Mountain.

"Decem$^{r.}$ 3rd., 1755."

And on considering the Indians' Message and Mr. Broadhead's Opinion, the following Message was sent to them, and the care

thereof committed to Aaron Dupui and the said Charles Broadhead with the following Instructions:

A Message from Governor Morris to the Indians living at Wyomink, &ca.

[L. S.] "*The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor & Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania and Counties of New Castle, Kent, and Sussex, upon Delaware.*

"*To the Indians living at Wyomink, Nescopecka, and Shamokin, Greeting:*

"Brethren:

"The People of the Province have always considered you as their own Flesh & Blood, and it being a time of Danger, are anxious to know the state and Condition of your Affairs, & to give you the strongest Assurances of the Continuance of their Affection for you.

"Brethren:

"I have many things to say to you, which concern your safety & our mutual Security, that will require us without loss of time to see one another and confer together; & have, therefore, sent these Messengers to take you by the Hand, and conduct you to John Harris' on the River Sasquehana, where I have kindled a Council Fire, & expect to see you there on the first day of January, which will be the beginning of the next moon.

"Brethren:

"Be not afraid to Come; I engage on the part of this Government that you shall not be hurt, and if you are apprehensive of any Danger happening to your Wives and Children in your absence, I desire you will bring them along with you, and I will protect them and take good care of them.

"Brethren:

"I mean this invitation to come to Council, not only for you but for all the Indians that are in your Neighbourhood, & desire you will send Messengers forthwith, to invite them to it in my Name; and I expect a large number will Accompany you as I have many matters to communicate of very great Consequence to all the Indians.

"Brethren:

"Hitherto we have not been a Warlike People, but we have seen our Error, and are determined to act with Vigour, and let the Indians see we are capable of defending of ourselves against our Enemys, & affording our Friends and Allies the Protection they have a right to demand of us, in virtue of the Treaties subsisting between us.

"Brethren:

"I desire you will not hearken to any Stories that may be told you, to the prejudice of us your Brethren; We are your hearty Friends; We propose to give you the strongest Marks of our Confidence, and whatever you hear to the contrary, give no Credit to it.

"Brethren:

"A Company of Warriors of the neighbouring Province of Jersey found some Indians near a place where mischief had been just done by the Enemy, and not knowing but they might have been concerned in that Mischief, they took them up and confined them. As soon as I heard of it I sent a Message to the Governor of Jersey, and desired him to send them to me; and you may be assured they shall be well taken care of, and if I find them innocent I will bring them with me to the Congress.

"*Given* under my hand & the Lesser Seal of the said Province, at Philadelphia, the eighth day of December, in the Year of our Lord one thousand seven hundred and fifty-five.

"ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS."

1 The Instructions from Governor Morris to Aaron Dupui, Esqr., Mr. Benjamin Shoemaker, & Mr. Charles Broadhead, relating to the foregoing Message to the Indians:

"*Instructions of the Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor & Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania, and Counties of Newcastle, Kent, & Sussex, upon Delaware,*

"*To Aaron Dupui, Esq., Mr. Benjamin Shoemaker, & Mr. Charles Brodhead, of the County of Northampton:*

"Gentlemen:

"I give you the Charge of a Message to the Sasquehannah Indians, the purport of which is to invite them to meet at John Harris' on the First of January next, where I intend to hold a Council with all the Friendly Indians I can collect together, and as it ought to be delivered as soon as possible, and you have kindly offered your service, I must desire you will not give it the least delay, but taking with you such prudent Persons as you shall judge necessary for your safety, proceed directly to Wyomink.

"If they receive the Invitation in good part, and you find them well disposed to us and willing to come, You are then to take care that Indian Messengers be dispatched with the Invitation and String of Wampum to such other Indians as can attend that meeting.

"You are to send a Messenger immediately, either Indian or White man, to Philadelphia to acquaint me of the Time that they may be expected at Harris'.

"In case the Indians cannot be got together or offer good reasons that they cannot be ready to come with you directly, endeavor to persuade as many of their Chiefs as you can to come, and desire the rest may follow as soon as they conveniently can.

"But if they give you a cool Reception and decline the Invitation altogether, then you are to endeavor to discover their true Sentiment & future Designs by the softest and most prudent methods in your Power, but if these have not the desired effect then you are to demand an explicit & positive Declaration whether they will join with us or no.

"As soon as you receive a determined answer either favorable or otherwise, dispatch a trusty and proper Messenger to Mr. Horsfield at Bethlehem, who has my orders to send it forward by Express to this City.

"You are to keep an exact Diary or Journal of your proceedings & make report to me thereof at your Return.

"You are to conduct & accompany the Indians from Wyomink to Harris' Ferry, & take care that they be well treated, & that none of the White People molest or give them any uneasiness in their Journey; and when you draw near to our back Settlements, You are to dispatch a Messenger to me at Harris' Ferry to acquaint me when I am to expect them there.

"You are to take with you a sufficient quantity of the best White Wampum, to give at the delivery of the Message.

"ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS.

"Philadelphia, 8th Decemr. 1755."

At a Council held at the State House, the 10th December, 1755.

PRESENT:

JAMES HAMILTON, Esquire, President.

Robert Strettell, William Logan, Joseph Turner, Thomas Cadwalader, Esquires.

Commissions issued to

George Reynolds, Esquire, Captain,
Jamuel Allen, Gentlem., Lieutenant,
William Whiteside, Genl. Ensign,
For a Company in Lebanon Township, Lancaster County.

Henry Wagoner, Esqr. Captain,
Abraham Hubler, Gentm. Lieutenant,
For a Company in Bethel townsp. Lancaster County.

Report on Mattakesett
Indians petition Janry 26. 1757
Entd.

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Extract of a Letter from Lt. Col: Mercer to William Alexander Esqr. Secretary to General Shirley dated Oswego Decr. 11th. 1755.

I have the pleasure to acquaint you with the Success & Return of General Shirley's Messenger to the Messasago's & other foreign Indians, that they have accepted of His Excellys. Offers & Invitations, & will be here in great Numbers early in the Spring, being disgusted wth. the French for the little Care they took of their Families in their Absence, their Breach of promise in regard to Presents, & their Want of Necessaries to supply their Wants; he is anxious least we should not perform the absolute promises he made them in the General's Name, of considerable Presents & a large Quantity of Goods for Trade; As their being disappointed might be attended wth. bad Consequences, I have directed the Commissary of the Stores to transmit you an Account of the Indian Goods in his Possession, wch. is greatly short for the Occasion we may probably have to dispose of them; this I have signify'd to the General, & doubt not of his taking Care that a proper Supply be sent.

The Information, I sent you the 15th. of Novr. concerning the Retreat of the Oswegochie & Other Indians from Canada is false; they have since made proposals to a Council held at Onondago, desiring the five Nations to join the French, & them agst. us, when the Council denied them that, they desir'd a Neutrality, wch. was consented to, on Condition that all the French Indians should likewise remain unactive & Neutral; however, the Council is broke up & nothing concluded; the Peace agreed

upon

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sion betwixt the foreign Indians & the five Nations I find ives them universal Satisfaction; I hope it will turn the cale in our favour; Oswego, in their Opinion, will soon be a reat Mart, where the Wants of all the Indians in America may be supply'd.

a true Copy Wm. Alexander Secy.

N.B. Lt. Col. Mercer is Commandant of the Fort at Oswego

I beg, gentlemen, that you in particular will accept of, and convey to your generous county, my grateful & respectful salutations for their seasonable beneficence to the Army under my command.

I am Gentlemen
Your Most obedient and Obliged Servant
W. Johnson.

[From the London Gaz.]

Whitehall Nov. 18. 1755.

The King has been pleased to grant unto Wm. Johnson of New York, America, Esqr. and his heirs male the dignity of a Baronet of Great Britain.

REPORT OF THE BOARD OF TRADE TO THE KING.

To the King's most Excellent Majesty.

May it please Your Majesty,

In obedience to Your Majesty's Commands signified to Us by Mr. Fox, one of Your Majesty's Principal Secretaries of State, in his Letter dated the 18th, of November last, We have taken into Our Consideration the Copy of a Letter from Mr. Thomas Penn, in behalf of himself and his Brother, Proprietaries of Pennsylvania, to Mr. Fox, together with a Copy of a Message from the Governor to the Assembly of that Province of the 20th. of July last, relating to an Offer, then made and now proposed to be enlarged, of a Grant of Lands, in different Proportions, to such Officers and Soldiers as shall engage in the publick Service. Whereupon We beg Leave humbly to represent to Your Majesty,

That We cannot but greatly approve the Zeal, which Mr. Penn has by this Offer expressed for Your Majesty's Service, which in the present Exigency of Affairs certainly calls for every degree of Support and Encouragement which can be given to it; But as the Lands intended to be granted are said in general to lie to the Westward of the Allegany Mountains, We are apprehensive, that the proposed Settlement may comprehend within it part of those Lands (being sixty Miles from the Lakes into the Country) which the six Nations of Indians, by a solemn Deed in 1726, surrendered to the Crown of Great Britain to be protected and defended for their Use as hunting Lands; And in the quiet Possession of which, Your Majesty, in your Instructions to Sr. Charles Hardy, Your Governor of New York, has directed him to give them the strongest assurances of your Royal Resolution to protect and defend them, forbidding him upon any pretence whatever to grant Lands to any Person within the Limits described in the said Deed, but on the contrary to use his utmost Endeavours to prevent the making any Settlement within the same.

In order to remove this objection, by shewing that the Six Nations had voluntarily and fairly sold and convey'd to him all their Right and Title to the Lands now offered to be granted, Mr. Penn (by whom We have been attended upon this Occasion) produced to us a Treaty concluded by his Agents with the sacnems of all the said Nations at Albany in July 1754, In which Treaty We fin'd a Deed whereby the said Nations, for the Consideration therein mentioned, convey to the Proprietaries of Pennsylvania all the Lands lying within that Province, bounded and limited as follows, vizt. "beginning at the Kittochtinny or blue Hills on the West Bank of Susquehannah River, and "thence by the said River to a mile above the mouth of a certain Creek call'd Kayarondinhagh, thence "North West and by West, as far as the said Province of Pennsylvania extends to its Western Line

“ or Boundary, thence along the said Western Line or Boundary to the South Line or Boundary of
“ the said Province, thence by the said South Line to the South side of the said Hills, along the said
“ Hills to the place of beginning.”

We must however beg Leave to observe to your Majesty, that from the manner in which the Treaty for this Purchase appears to have been carried on, from the unwillingness which We find the Indians at first expressed to part with any Lands to the Westward of the Allegany Mountains, from the Declaration which they made to Sr. Wm. Johnson at the Conferences which he held with them in July last, that nowithstanding they had sold the Lands abovementioned to the Proprietary of Pennsylvania, they would not part with more than half of them, and from their earnest request that the English might not be suffered to make any further Purchases, but that the Indians might be allowed to keep their Lands for themselves, there is great reason to believe that the making any settlement within the Limits described in the Deed of 1726, would give them the greatest uneasiness and Dissatisfaction.

That your Majesty may be the better enabled to judge of the Expediency or Inexpediency of such a measure, We beg leave shortly to state to your Majesty the Nature and Situation of this Tract of Country, the real importance of which to the six Nations will best appear, if We consider it in two lights, 1, as Hunting Lands, 2dly. as a great pass in the tract of the Indian Country

As to the first Point, the Inhabitants of this Country are Hunters, and as the Interests of a commercial Nation, in which it is to be protected and by which it may be commanded, is it's Trade, so the great and main point with regard to these hunting Nations, if the expression may be allowed, is to have the Command of the hunting Grounds, which so far as regards the Beaver, the most valuable Branch of it, lie in the Environs of the great Lakes.

With respect to the second Light in which this Object may be viewed, it must be observed, that there is no way of passing either to the East or to the West, or from the North to the South but thro' the Lakes, or over the Streights, Falls and carrying Places in and about them, unless it be by going round them, which as to all Business or advantage is impracticable. Unless therefore the Indians be left in Possession of this Country, they must lose not only the Command of it, but also the Use and Benefit of their Hunting.

Possessed of this Country, they can descend by water-communication with the Streams to any part of the Continent from the Gulph of St. Lawrence to the Mississippi, for in this Country lie the Heads of the Delawar, Susquehanna, Ohio, St. Lawrence, and Hudson's rivers; and the Light in which they themselves consider it will clearly appear from the account which they themselves gave of it some time ago to a Person in whom they had Confidence at Onondage, vizt. That it has many advantages superior to any other part of America, the endless mountains (meaning the Apalachian) separate us, say they, from the English from Albany to Georgia; the falls of St. Lawrence and Sorrel River and the Mountains of Almouchousen separate us from the French; If the French should prevail so far as to attempt to drive us out of our Country, We can with our old Men Wives and Children come down the Streams of the Mohawks River, the Delawar, both Branches of the Susquehannah and the Potowmack to the English; If the English should expell us our Country, We have a like Conveyance to the French, by the Streams of St. Lawrence, & Sorrell River; and if both should join, We can retire across the Lakes.

From this short description of this Country, the Lines of Indian Politicks may be easily traced out, And their first Resolution not to part with this Situation either to French or English as Settlers; Their great Uneasiness when the French attempted to make a Settlement at Niagara in 1719, which gave rise to that treaty of 1726, whereby they put their Country and Hunting Lands under the Protection of the Crown of England—Their Difficulties, when the Commissioners on the Part of Pennsylvania proposed to purchase part of this Country at Albany, and their Declaration to Sr Wm Johnson, that, notwithstanding their purchase, they would not part with it, are Circumstances which clearly mark out what should be the Conduct and Politicks of the English with regard to them viz. to leave them in Possession of their Country according to the Description in the Deed of 1726, and to undertake the Guarantee of it to them, protecting them and their Hunting Lands in such manner as to command both it and them, and Yet most religiously to preserve the Use to them.

Upon the whole therefore We are humbly of Opinion, that at any time, but more especially at present, when We ought cautiously to avoid giving any the least Cause of Jealousy or Distrust to the Indians, and religiously to observe Our Engagements with them, it would not be advisable to attempt the making any Settlement Upon the Lands, which by the Deed of 1726 are given by them to Your Majesty, to be protected for their Use. The Regard, which the Proprietarys of Pennsylvania have at all times shewn for Your Majesty's Interest and the Publick Service, leaves Us no room to doubt of their Acquiescence in this Opinion, And We have reason to hope that their laudable design of promoting the Good of that Service by their generous Proposal will not be defeated by it, as We Observe upon an Examination of the best Geographical Description and Dilineation of this Country, that there is within the Province of Pennsylvania a space of Land between the Mountains and the Limits of the Lands described in the Deed of 1726, more than sufficient for this or any larger Settlement which may be proposed.

Which is most humbly Submitted.

Whitehall }
Dec^{br} the 11th 1755. }

(Sign'd)
DUNK HALIFAX.
J. PITT.
JAMES OSWALD
ANDREW STONE.

SIR W^{M}. JOHNSON TO THE BOARD OF TRADE

Mount Johnson 18th Decr 1755

MY LORDS

The Season of the year & other circumstances made it necessary to klose the campaign & discharge the Provincial Troops under my command.

When I first knew of my appointment to Indian affairs, I repeated my desire of being excused from my military command, I was Sensible & pleaded that it would, as it actually did, So interfere with my administration of Indian affairs, that I could not attend them in the manner I wished to have done. By my Military Engagements I have not been able to be at my own House or in the Indian Country one day this four months. And now I am at last got home & am just entering into the administration of Indian affairs so as to form & conduct them to the extent of my knowledge and abilities for the good of His Majesty's Service, I am again obtructed & everything brot to a stand by Gen^{l} Shirleys Sending me a new Commission & Instructions for the management of Indian affairs & ordering me to attend him either at New York or Boston, the least of w^{ch} is 200 miles distant from hence; this journey I am but ill qualified for upon acct of my wound the effects of w^{ch} I still feel.

I herewith transmit y^{r} Lordships copies of M^{r} Shirleys letter, Commission & Instructions & also of my answer.

The necessity I am under of going either to New York or Boston, to know upon what footing I am to go on with the administration of Indian affairs, or whether I am to go on at all, will continue these affairs in a State of confusion, besides I am to have a meeting with Some Indians of all the nations at this place the of next month.

18th Decr
1755.

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of Trade ——

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DUNK HALIFAX.
J. PITT.
(Sign'd) JAMES OSWALD
ANDREW STONE.

Whitehall
Decbr the 11th 1755.

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Mount Johnson 18th Decr 1755

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I propose to myself the Honour of writing your Lordships another Letter either from New York or Boston.

I am most respectfully
My Lord
Your Lordships most Obedt. &
faithful Hum Servt.

To the RightRonble
and Honble
The Lords Commissioners of
Trade &c. &c.

Endorsed Fort Johnson Decbr 18th 1755
My letter to the Lords of Trade

To the Right Honourable The Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations.

The Memorial of William Johnson of the Mohawks Country in the Province of New York Esqr.

SHEWETH.

That the Memorialist in the year 1746 by the Appointment of the Honoble Mr. Clinton then Governor of New York, undertook the management of Indian Affairs, at that time in a very unfavourable Situation for the British Interest; and by great Application and Industry prevailed on the six Nations to take up the Hatchet and assist the English against the French. That during this Interval he advanced by Order of Mr. Clinton the sum of £600 for Presents he distributed among the Western Nations of Indians, which had So good an Effect on them, that they offer'd to join the English against the French, if the former would Supply them with Arms and Ammunition. This was neglected, and the Peace took Place Soon after. That the Memorialist hath also advanced several other Sums of money for Publick Services: Accounts of all which have been laid before the General Assembly and repeated Applications made to them to allow the same, as well by Recommendations from Mr. Clinton, as since by Lieutenant Governor DeLancey, but without any other Effect than the allowing of some Articles of his Demand, others only in part, and the absolute refusal to allow any part of the £600 abovementioned, the Assembly alledging that as the Memorialist laid out that sum by Mr. Clinton's Order, to him he ought to apply for Payment: So that there remains the Ballance of still due, besides Interest, which being computed and the whole reduced into Sterling amounts to That the Memorialist finding all Applications hitherto fruitless and vain, is oblig'd to have recourse to your Lordships for Redress, begging leave to lay before your Lordships this state of his Case, with the Account annexed, and that your Lordships will be pleased to offer the same to his Majesty, or to take such other Method for the Payment of this just Debt, as your Lordships in your great Wisdom shall judge proper and expedient.

New York 14th: January 1756.

Endorsed This was not sent.

LETTER FROM SECY POWNALL.

Whitehall, March 5th. 1756.

SIR, Since my Letter to you dated the 2d of Decr last, His Majesty has been pleased to appoint the Earl of Loudoun, an Officer of Experience, Ability and Integrity, to be Commander in Chief of His Forces in America, and to direct that two Battalions of His Troops should be sent from hence, and four others raised in America for the defense and protection of the Colonies against the Hostilities and Invasions of the French; and as the Success of such measures as His Lordship shall think proper to pursue upon his Arrival for the general Interest and Security of the Colonies, and the Annoyance of the Enemy, will in great measure depend upon his having a large body of Our Indian Allies, to act in

Sir,

New York Decr. 20th 1755.—

(Duplicate)

I am now to lay before you an Account of what I have done in Obedience to his Majesty's 6th Instruction Relative to the Indians, a Copy of which is Inclos'd.

Upon my Arrival at Albany I engag'd the Chief men of a Tribe of Indians call'd the Stockbridge or River Indians, & about 30 of their Warriours to proceed with me to Oswego upon the Expedition against Niagara.

In my Passage thro' the Mohawk's Country I visited their two Castles, at both which I had a Conference with their Chief Sachems, particularly Hendrick, and all their Warriours & young men, who were not then gone to join Major General Johnson in his Majesty's against Crown point, & engag'd about 18 of those in both the Castles, who had not Engag'd to proceed with General Johnson, to go with me in the Service under my Command, & in my Passage from thence to Oswego I sent Messages to the Sachems of the Oneide's, Cayuga's, Onondago's, & Senecas to meet me there, with some of the Warriours of their respective Nations.

Soon after my Arrival at Oswego, Several of the Sachems & Warriours of the Oneida's meet me, as Did, a few Days after, Almost all the Onondago Sachems, & a Considerable Number of their Warriors: & I had reason to Expect a Large Number of the Seneca's untill two of their Chiefs Sachams came to me to Apologize for their Staying so Long. & to let me know it was Owing to an Albany Trader having lattey brought in among their Young Men a great Quanity of Rum, which kept them

Rt. Honble. Henry Fox Esqr.
his Majesty's principal Secretary at War.

Continually drunk: that part of their Errand was to Aquaint me, hat the party I had sent after the Albany Trader to take away his Rum, pursuant to the power given by a Province Law of New York to the Commanders of Oswego for the time being, could not xecute their orders, and to aſsure me, it was not the fault of the achems, and to Complain of this Practice, as what was the Ruin their Young Men: I had however the ſatiſfaction to hear soon fter, that the Seneca's had oblig'd Mr. Jonquiere, who had been their Castles two or three months endeavouring to engage their arriors in the French Service, & had Actually engaged 15 of them, o take away the French Colours from among them, that the 15 Young Men had refuſ'd to go with him, & that those Castles had promiſ'd to take up the Hatchett for the English.

A few days after, one of the Indians, whom I had Sent to in Intelligence of the State of the French Fort & Garriſon Niagara, brought me a Meſsage from the Outouaias Indian ho had been concern'd in the Action at the Monongahela gainst General Braddock, that if I should come against Niagara nd would Informe them of it, they would be out of the way [not se the Hatchett Against the English] and I understood by the me Indian, that they had encourag'd the Seneca's, whose Castle more Inclin'd to the French, then any other of the five Nations, take up the Hatchett with their Brethren against them; which was great Motive to their using Jonquiere as they Did.

At my Conferences with the Indians at Oswego, the nondaga's desired me to build them a Fort at their head astle, which I promiſ'd to do next Spring; the Oneida's ve desired the same, with a Garriſon & some pieces of rtillery; and in Return they have Given me leave to fortifye the great Carrying place in their Lands at Oneida, as I should think proper, during the Expedition, for securing our Magazines of Stores & provissions at each End of it, and for keeping open the Communication between Oswego and Albany.

The Cayuga's desir'd I would send them two or three men to plough their Lands, & all of them Gunsmiths; which I have promis'd.

At other Conferences I acquainted them, that I had sent Messages to the Messesagues, Chippowee's Outowaies & other western Castles to meet me & the Brethren of the five Nations at Oswago next Spring there to Consult in a General Council upon the best measures for Settling a Mutual Friendship & Alliance, opening a free Trade and Commerce between the Indians & English, at such Trading Houses upon the Lakes as they should Chuse, and which I Proposed to build for them, and for engaging all the Western Indians to lay down the Hatchett against the English, and by that means, establish a General peace among all their Castles, & put End to the destructive War, which the French were perpetually engaging them in Against the English, & Against each Other.

For this purpose I proposed to the five Nations to Send some of their Sachems to meet me in the Spring at Oswego, at which place I told them, that as it is the Center of their Country, & it was more fit that the far Nations should Resort to their Home, & take law from them, than that they should go out of their own Territories to meet those Nations, I design'd (in the Indian Phrase) to Kindle a new fire there, for them to them to have General Councils and meetings annually,

at

or at other set times, in Order to Cultivate a good Understanding
mong themselves, and Peace and Trade with the English, and to
nsult upon every thing, that might promote their own Intrest,

This, the Leading Castles among them promis'd me to do;
d Yesterday I had the pleasure to receive the Inclos'd Letter from
Lieut. Colonel Mercer, whom I Left Commanding Officer at
swego, acquainting me With the Success of my Messages to the
ssasaques & other Indians on the North side of the Lake Ontario,
and I can't but hope, that if every one of these measures
re Closly pursued, & discreetly manag'd, & the Trade put under
roper Regulations, they will go far towards Compassing that great
ffect. the drawing over all the Indians in General Except
erhaps, what the French call les Sauvages Domicilies (those
nhabiting Villages within Canada) to the English Intrest: a
Beneficial Trade to them will Certainly be the greatest & most
Extensive Attractive, and of much more Effect than the richest
Presents; tho' presents and small pensions properly placed
among them at right times must be ~~is~~ made use of too; But
hen the Trade is Settled, those need be Made use of much more
sparingly, then at present; the keeping up Forts within the
eritories of every one of the five Nations must have a great
ffect to keep them united in a firm dependance upon the Crown
f Great Britain; & if ~~a~~ Annual meeting of the far Nations with
hem at Oswego can be Establish'd, it will give the five Nations
Great figure and Influence among the far Nations, & both
gether must greatly Contribute towards restoring them to
eir Ancient power among all the Indians, & their former Close
nnections with the English.

I am now oblig'd to aquaint you, Sir, that General Braddock, upon his Arrival at Alexandria, gave the then Colonel Johnson, Whom I had before Appointed Commander in Chief of the Provincial Troops to be employ'd in the Expedition against Crown point, a Commission constituting him sole Superintend-ant & manager of the Affaires of the "Indians of the Six Nations, "and strictly requiring & In-joining all Persons, to whome the "Direction of the Affairs of the said Nations or their Allies "have been heretofore Committed. & all others whatsoever, to cease & "forbear Acting or Intermedling therein"; and by the said Late General 6th: Instructions to him he is directed to "use every Expedient to prevaile upon "the said Six Nations to declare themselves, and to take up Arms "as well to Act in Conjunction with him-"self at the Attack "of Crown point, as to March with Those "Troops, which are; destined for the Reduction of Niagara: and "also to prevaile upon them to Engage their Allies to join the "the General to the Southward.

Soon After my return from Alexandria to Boston I wrote a Letter to Colonel Johnson by an Officer, to whome I had given the Command of the Indians, who should proceed with me to Niagara, desiring he would Assist him in procuring me some Indians to go in that Service, & ordering the Officer to act under Colonel Johnson's Directions; This Letter was deliver'd to him, but had a Contrary Effect, to what I hoped.

The construction, which Colonel Johnson made of his Indian Commission, was that it excluded me from Employing persons whatsoever to Engage any Indians to go with me to Niagara; & the Effect of his Military Commission has been not only to engage every Indian he could to go with himself to Crown point, but to prevent any from going with me to Niagara: one Instance, Among others, of this is that he forbid one Capt. Staats, who

ld him he should carry some Stockbridge Indians to Niagara; In
Expedition under my Command, to presume to take one of them into it:
what makes this more Extraordinary is that these Indians are no
rt of the Six Nations, but Chiefly inhabit within my own Go=
nment and are dependent upon it; & were Rais'd at first by
ptain Staats, at the request of Colonel Johnson, to proceed to
own Point with him; but Afterwards refus'd by him On Accot;
Suppose, of his not much wanting them; and I have very great
eason to believe, from what paſs'd between me and the Indians,
at he Secretly endeavour'd to prejudice them against going with
e; nor had I one with me, except those Stockbridge Indians, whom e
ngag'd at Albany, and a few from every Castle, which I picked
as I paſs'd thro' the Mohawks, Oneidas, & Onondagos Country,
my March to Oswego.

Since my Return from Oswego I have receiv'd Complaints from
Mohawks, Indians of the lower Castle; who ware with at
wego, that in their absence, their families were deny'd by Colonel
hnson's Agent, the provisions, which he Allow'd to the families
these Indians of the same Castle, who were in the Expedition
gainst Crown Point with him.

I have the further Mortification to find, that I have great
eason to be perswaded, that Colonel Johnson is supported by
e Governour of New York in the wrong Notions he hath Entertain'd
the Effect of his Indian Commiſsion from General Braddock,
th Respect to its Excluding me from any Superintendency of
dian Affaires by Virtue of my Commiſsion: the Inclos'd Extract of my
tter to the Governor, & his Answer to me, both dated since it was
own that I had the Honour of the Lords Justices Commiſsion to
ceed the Late General Braddock in his Command, for the Execution
his trust in a very Material Instance: And I understand that

Sir Charles Hardy Assumes to himself a Power of sending Colonel Johnson Directions for the Execution of his trust with regard to the Indians, Colonel Johnson follows, and both of them without first Communicatin with me; this they have done in a very essential Article, Viz.t the Disposition of the French Prisoners. Concerning which I have his Majesties Express Orders to send them to France; and I hear they have taken upon them to give one or more of them to one of the Castles of the five Nations; a proceeding, in my Opinion, far from being advisable at this Conjuncture.

Sir Charles Hardy observes, in his Inclos'd Answer to me "General Braddock had, in Consequence of Instructions from home, and with the Unanimous Opinion of the Council at Alexandria, given General Johnson a Commission to take upon him the Management and Care of Indian Affairs;" I can undertake to say that not one of the Council at Alexandria ever Imagin'd that the Effect of that Commission was to Exclude the King's General, who gave it or his Successor from Executing the Trust committed to them by the King, for Cultivating a friendship with the Indians, and Engaging them to take Part and Act with his Forces in such Opperations, as Either of them should think it Expedient for the Indians to take: if any one particular Member hath advis'd Sir Charles Hardy in this Affair, it proceeds I have reason to believe from that Member's Tendency to bring back by this means in the End the Indian Affairs to the Management of Commissioners for them at Albany, whose Long Misconduct in that trust, and the pernicious Consequences of it to his Majesty's Service, and the Interest of his Subjects in General with the Six Nations, are too well known to need being particularly mention'd. To remove the foundation of this Obstacle to me in Executing his Majesty's orders Relative to the Indians,

have revoked General Braddock's Commission to Colonel Johnson,
sent him one founded upon the Intent of his Majesty's inclos'd
structions, without the words Sole Superintendant, which are
ention'd in his former Commission and Accompany'd with a Letter to
n, a Copy of which is Inclos'd.

Whether he will act under this Commission, or at least follow
Instructions (which last will satisfy me) I know not yet: if
will do Either, as he hath press'd for an Acceptance of the
render of his Military Commission with all the Governments
cern'd in the Expedition against Crown point, as interfering
much with his Attention to his Indian Commission, he will not be
er his former Temptation to prevent me from having a suitable
portion of the Indians to proceed with me in the Service under
er my Immediate Command, & may duly Execute the trust repos'd
him; if he refuses to do Either, I shall be under a Necessity, in order
Enable me to do my own Duty in this Article, of Appointing another
his Stead, which will be the noted Conrad Weiser, who, besides being
erson of the most Universal Influence over, & knowledge of all the
dians of the five Nations, of any one upon this Continent, is an
pted Sachem amongst them, and Constituted a Member of their
neral Council at Onondago.

With regard to my Execution of that part of his Majesty's inclos'd
structions, which relates to the Southern Indians; I have to
uaint you, Sir, that upon Governour Morris's representing to me
e present Devastations made by the Indians, within the Province
Pensilvania under his Government (an Account of which I un-
stand, Sir, he hath Sent to yourself) and the present defenceless
te of the Province for want of some regular Troops to act in
junction with what Provincials the Governour shall raise in

his

Colony, a Copy of which last is inclos'd, I have propos'd the inclos'd Measures to be taken by the several Western Governments from Pensilvania to South Carolinia, both Inclusive; which I have Transmitte to the respective Governours, as also the Inclos'd Instructions to Colonel Johnson; & have Determined to send him a Detachment of 40 of the Regular Troops now at this Place, which is all the Succour I have it in my Power to send at present, & may I hope infuse a sense of discipline into Irregulars, Encouraging the Province to make some Opposition to the Enemy, which they have not hitherto done, & be some Check to the Enemy in making their Incursions.

I can't but Attribute, Sir, the present Confusion and Distress of Pensilvania, Principally to the Government's being but just now begining to recover from it's Principles of non-Defence; & the People's being unaquainted to Attacks from the Indians, & making a stand against them.

The Comparison of the State of Pensilvania with that of the Province of the Massachusetts Bay may serve, in some Measure, to shew the justness of this Remark: The latter Government hath a very Extended Frontier, which was for many years used to feel cruel Effects from the Incursions of the Eastern Indians, by their Cutting off whole Townships in time of war, and still feel bad Effects from them in their most exposed Settlements, but from being long used to defend themselves, they have Establis'd a very Different System of treating the Indians from that of Pensilvania; before I left the Government war was Declared against all the Eastern Indians, except the Penobscotts, and since I left it, they sent to demand of the Penobscotts

to

bring in the old men, Women & Children into the Province & there remain during the War, with the other Indians, as Hostages for ir Fidelity, and on their Refusal to do it, the Government hath eclared war Against them; & that at a time when a fifth rt at Least of the Province's fighting men were engaged in her parts of the Kings Service.

I am with the highest Respect,

Sir, your most humble, and
most Obedient Servant.

W Shirley.

New York Decr. 20th. 1755.

Sir

I am now to lay before you an Account of what I have done in Obedience to his Majesty's 8th. Instruction relative to the Indians, a Copy of which is enclosed.

Upon my arrival at Albany I engaged the Chief part of a Tribe of Indians called the Stockbridge or River Indians, and about 30 of their Warriors to proceed with me to Oswego upon the Expedition against Niagara.

In my Paſsage thrô the Mohawks Country, I visited their two Castles, at both which I had a Conferrence with their Sachems, particularly Hendrick, and all their Warriors and Youngmen, who were not then gone to join Major General Johnson in his Majesty's Service against Crown Point, and engaged about eighteen of those in both the Castles, who had not engaged to proceed with General Johnson, to go with me in the Service under my Command, and in my Paſsage from thence to Oswego, I sent Meſsages to the Sachems of the Oneida's, Cayuga's, Onondagaes, and Seneca's to meet me there, with some of the Warriors of their respective Nations.

Soon after my arrival at Oswego, several of the Sachems and Warriors of the Oneida's met me, as did, a few days after, almost all the Onondaga Sachems and a considerable Number of their Warriors; and I had reason to expect a large Number of the Seneca's until two of their Chief-Sachems came to me to Apologize for

Rt. Honble. Sir Thomas Robinson, Knt. of the Bath,
one of his Majesty's principal Secretaries of State }

for their staying so long, and to let me know it was owing to an Albany Trader's having lately brought in among their Youngmen, great Quantity of Rum, which kept them continually Drunk; that art of their Errand was to inform me that the Party I had sent fter the Albany Trader to take away his Rum pursuant to the ower given by a Province Law of New York to the Commandant t Oswego for the time being, could not Execute their Orders, and o assure me it was not the Fault of the Sachems, and to complain f this Practice, as what was the Ruin of their Youngmen; I had owever the Satisfaction to hear soon after, that the Seneca's had bliged Mr. Jonquiere, who had been at their Castle two or three Months, endeavouring to engage their Warriors in the French Service, nd had actually engaged fifteen of them, to take away the French olours from among them, that the fifteen Young Men had refused to go with him, and that those Castles had promised to take up the Hatchet for the English.

A few days after one of the Indians, whom I had sent to gain intelligence of the State of the French Fort and Garrison at Niagara, brought me a Message from the Outawaias Indians, who had been concerned in the Action at the Monongahela against General Braddock, that if I should come against Niagara and would inform them of it, they would be out of the way [not use the Hatchet against the English] and I understood by the same Indian, that they had encouraged the Seneca's whose Castle is more inclin'd to the French than any other of the five Nations, to take up the Hatchet with their Brethren against them; which was a great Motive for using Jonquiere as they did.

At my Conferrences with the Indians at Oswego, the Onondaga's desired me to build them a Fort at their head Castle, which I promised to do next Spring; the Oneida's have desired the same with a Garrison and some peices of Artillery; and in return they have given me leave to fortify the Great Carrying Place in their Lands at

Oneida, as I should think proper during the Expedition for securing our Magazines of Stores and Provisions at each end of it, and for keeping open the Communication between Oswego and Albany.

The Cayuga's desired I would send them two or three Men to plough their Lands, and all of them Gunsmiths, which I have promised.

At other Conferrences I acquainted them, that I had sent Messages to the Messasagues, Chippowees, Outawaias and other Western Castles to meet me and the Brethren of the five Nations at Oswego next Spring, there to consult in a General Council upon the best measures for settling a mutual friendship and Alliance, opening a free Trade and Commerce between the Indians and English at such trading Houses upon the Lakes as they should choose, and which I propos'd to build for them, and for engaging all the Western Indians to lay down the Hatchet against the English, and by that means establish a General Peace among all their Castles, & putting an end to the destructive War, which the French were perpetually engaging them in against the English, and against each other.

For this purpose I propos'd to the five Nations to send some of their Sachems to meet me in the Spring at Oswego, at which place I told them, that as it is the Center of their Country and it was more fit that the far Nations should resort to *their* Home and take Law from them, than that they should go out of their own Territories to meet those Nations, I design'd (in the Indian Phrase) to kindle a new fire there, for them to have General Councils and Meetings annually at, or at other set times in order to cultivate a good Understanding among themselves, and Peace and Trade with the English and to consult upon every thing, that might promote their own Interests.

This the leading Castles among them promised me to do; and yesterday I had the pleasure to receive the inclosed Letter from Lieut^t Col^l. Mercer, whom I left Commanding Officer at Oswego,

acquaint

cquainting me with the Success of my Messages to the Messasagues nd other Indians on the Northside of the Lake Ontario &c, and I n't but hope that if every one of these Measures are closely ursu'd and discreetly managed, and the Trade put under proper egulations they will go far towards compassing that great Object e drawing over all the Indians in General, except perhaps, what French call les Sauvages Domiciliés, (those inhabiting Villages thin Canada) to the English Interest: a beneficial Trade to them ll certainly be the greatest and most extensive attractive, and of uch more Effect than the richest Presents; tho' Presents and small nsions properly plac'd among them at right times, must be made e of too: But when the Trade is settled, those need be made use of uch more sparingly than at present; The keeping up Forts within e Territories of every one of the five Nations must have a great ffect to keep them united in a firm Dependance upon the Crown of eat Britain; and if an annual meeting of the far Nations with hem at Oswego can be established, it will give the five Nations a great igure, and increase their Influence among the Castles of the far ations, and both together must greatly contribute towards restoring hem to their antient power among all the Nations and their former ose Connections with the English.

I am now obliged to acquaint you, Sir, that General Braddock, upon his arrival at Alexandria, gave the then Colonel hnson, whom I had before appointed Commander in Chief of the Provincial Forces to be employed in the Expedition against Crown Point, Commission, constituting him "Sole Superintendant and Manager f the Affairs of the Indians of the Six Nations, and strictly requiring & njoining all Persons, to whom the directions of the Affairs of the said Nations or their Allies have been heretofore committed, and all others whatsoever, to cease and forbear acting or intermedling therein"; and y the said late General's 6th. Instruction to him he is directed to "use every Expedient to prevail upon the Six Nations to declare themselves, and to take up Arms as well to act in Conjunction with himself at the Attack

" of Crown point, as to march with those Troops which are destined for the
" Reduction of Niagara; and also to prevail upon them to engage their
" Allies to join the General to the Southward."

Soon after my Return from Alexandria to Boston I wrote a Letter to Colonel Johnson by an Officer, to whom I had given the Chief Command of the Indians, who should proceed with me to Niagara, desiring he would aſsist him in procuring me some Indians to go in that service and ordering the Officer to act under Colonel Johnson's Directions; this Letter was delivered to him, but had a contrary Effect to what I hop'd.

The Construction, which Colonel Johnson made of his Indian Commiſsion, was, that it excluded me from employing any Person whatever to engage any Indians to go with me to Niagara; and the effect of his military Commiſsion has been not only to ingage every Indian he could to go with himself to Crown Point, but to prevent any from going with me to Niagara: One Instance, among others of this, is, that he forbid one Capt. Staates, who told him he should carry some Stockbridge Indians to Niagara in the Expedition under my Command, to presume to take one of them into it; and what makes this more extraordinary is, that these Indians are no part of the Six Nations, but chiefly inhabit within my own Government and are dependant upon it; and were rais'd at first by Capt. Staates at the request of Colonel Johnson, to proceed to Crown point with him, but afterwards refus'd by him, on Accoun as I suppose of his not much wanting them; and I have very great reason to beleive from what paſs'd between me and some of the Indians, that he secretly endeavoured to prejudice them against going with me, nor had I one with me, except those Stockbridge Indian whom I engaged at Albany, and a few from every Castle, which I pick'd up as I paſs'd thro the Mohawks, Oneida's and Onondago's Country in my March to Oswego.

Since my return from Oswego I have received Complain from two Mohawk Indians of the lower Castle, who were with me

at

Oswego, that in their Absence, their Families were denied by Colo
nsons Agent, the Provisions which he allowed to the Families of
e Indians of the same Castle, who were in the Expedition against
own Point with him.

I have the further Mortification to find that I have
eat reason to be persuaded, that Colonel Johnson is supported by the
ov.r of New York in the wrong Notions, he hath entertained, of the
Effect of his Indian Commission from General Braddock, with
spect to its excluding me from any Superintendency of Indian
ffairs by virtue of my Commission: The Inclosed Extract of my
etter to the Governor and his Answer to me, both dated since it was
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ucceed the late General Braddock in his Command, will shew this
n a very material Instance: And I understand that Sir Charles —
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hich Colonel Johnson follows, and both of them without first —
ommunicating with me; and this they have done in a very —
ssential Article Viz.t the disposition of the French Prisoners, which
have his Majesty's Express Orders to send them to France: and I hear
they have taken upon them to give one or more of them to one of the
Castles of the five Nations; a proceeding in my Opinion, far from
being adviseable, at this Conjuncture.

Sir Charles Hardy observes, in his inclosed Answer to
me "that General Braddock had in Consequence of Instructions from
home, and with the Unanimous Opinion of the Council at Alexandria,
given General Johnson a Commission to take upon him the —
"Management and Care of Indian Affairs"; I can undertake to say
that not one of the Council at Alexandria ever imagined that the
Effect of that Commission was to exclude the Kings General, who
gave it, or his Successor from Executing the Trust committed to them
by the King, for cultivateing a Friendship with the Indians and

engaging them to take part and act with his Forces in such — Operations as either of them should think it Expedient for the Indians to take: If any one particular Member hath advised Sir Charles Hardy in this Affair, it proceeds, I have reason to beleive, from that Member's Fondness to bring back by this means in the end the Indian Affairs to the Management of the Commissioners for them at Albany, whose long Misconduct in that Trust, and the pernicious Consequences of it to his Majesty's Service and the Interest of his Subjects in General with the six Nations are too well known to need being particularly mentioned.

To remove the Foundation of this Obstacle to me in — Executing his Majesty's Orders relative to the Indians, I have — revoked General Braddock's Commission to Colonel Johnson, and sent him one founded upon the intent of his Majesty's inclosed — Instruction without the words *sole Superintendent*, which are — mentioned in his former Commission, and accompanied with a Letter to him a Copy of which is inclos'd.

Whether he will act under this Commission or at least follow my Instructions (which last will satisfy me) I know not yet: — if he will do either, as he has press'd for an Acceptance of the Surrende of his Military Commission with all the Governments concerned in the Expedition against Crown Point, as interfering too much with his Attention to his Indian Commission, he will not be under his — former Temptation to prevent me from having a suitable proportion of the Indians to proceed with me in the Service under my immediat Command, and may duly Execute the Trust reposed in him: If he refuses to do either I shall be under a necessity, in order to enable me to do *my* own Duty in this Article, of appointing another in his stea which will be the noted Conrad Weiser, who besides being a Person of the most universal Influence over, and knowledge of all the Indians of the five Nations of any one upon this Continent, is an

adopte

Sachem among them, and constituted a Member of their General – ouncil at Onondago.

With regard to my Execution of that part of his Majesty's nclos'd Instructions, which relates to the Southern Indians, I have to cquaint you, Sir, that upon Governor Morris's representing to me the resent Devastations made there by the Indians within the Province f Pensilvania under his Government (an Account of which I – nderstand he hath sent to yourself) and the present defenceleſs State f the Province for want of some Regular Troops to Act in Conjunction ith what Provincials (the Governor can raise in his own Colony, Copy f wch last I have enclosed, I have proposed the inclos'd Measures to be – aken by the several Western Governments from Pensilvania to South arolina both included, which I have transmitted to the respective – overnments as also the inclos'd Instructions to Colonel Johnson; & ave determined to send him a Detachment of 90 of the Regular roops now at this place, which is all the Succour, I have in my – ower to send at present, and may I hope infuse a Sense of discipline nto the Irregulars, encourage the Province to make some Opposition to the Enemy, which they have not hitherto done, and be some – Check to the Enemy making their Incursions.

I can't but attribute, Sir, the present Confusion and – Distreſs of Pensilvania principally, to the Government's being but just now beginning to Recover from its principles of non Defence, – and the People's being unaccustomed to Attacks from the Indians, and making a stand against them.

The Comparison of the State of Pensilvania with that of the Province of the Maſsachusets Bay. may serve in some Measure to shew the justneſs of this Remark: the latter Government hath a very extended Frontier which was for many years us'd to feel Cruel Effects from the Incursions of the Eastern Indians by their cutting off whole Townships in time of War, and still feel bad Effects from them in their most expos'd Settlements; but from being long used to defend themselves, they have established a very different System of treating the Indians from that of Pensilvania; before I left the Government War was declared against all the Eastern Indians Except the Penobscotts, and since I left it, they sent to Demand of the Penobscotts to bring in their old Men, Women & Children into the Province, there to remain during the War with the other Indians as Hostages for their Fidelity, and on their refusal to do it, the Government hath declared War against them; and that at a time when a fifth part of the Province's fighting Men, were engaged in other parts of the Kings Service.

I am with the highest Respect,

Sir

Your most Humble and
most Obedient Servant

W Shirley.

Scquaresere chief of the Tuscarorow ſpoke

Brother Warraghiyage

We return you our hearty Thanks for the Care you took of us, in Supplying us with Amunition, large Guns, and Paint, as we do not know how ſoon the Enemy will come upon us. We have been ſpeaking to our Eldest Brothers these four Years, about having a Place of Defence made agt the French, but could never bring them to a Conclusion untill now, having promised to join our Brothers the English against any attempts which the French shall make upon them.

a String of Wampum

Canaghquayeson ſpoke

Brother Warraghiyage

We join with our Brothers the Tuscaroras in returning you our hearty Thanks for advising us to be upon our Guard against the malicious Designs of the French, and that you would ſupply us with Amunition, large Guns and Paint &c.

a Belt

Brother Warraghiyage

We own we have been lost or drunk this ſeverall Years past in not listning to you, and our youngest Brothers in joining the two Castles together, but we have now opened our Ears, which have been ſtoped by both Sides, and are determined to live and dye with you

a Belt

Brother Warraghiyage

You acquainted us some Time ago

of

No. 96. f.

Meeting the Indians

of the Designs of the French in incroaching upon our Huntin
Ground, and advised us to defend the same, or otherwise they
would come and destroy us all; It ſeems to us now that they
had blinded our Eyes, and is as plain to us as the Sun that
rises in the Morning, that they had no other Designs in View
No Doubt but you heard that the French had invited us to
meet them at Swegatsie, but we have taken a firm Re-
solution never to listen to any but your self; We dont
ſpeake this from our Lips, but it comes from the Bottom
of our Hearts.

a Belt

Brother Warraghiyage.

You blame us for not taking care of our
allies to the Southward, but we aſsure you we have ſome
Time ago ſent four large Belts of Wampum to them, desiring
that they ſhould not join any but whome the 5. Nations join
with, and ſince we are informed that the Belts & Meſsages
we ſent were directly made known to the French.

Now Brother we have ſent an other Meſsage
desiring that they would come and ſpeak with us, and be
aſsured we ſhall do our utmost Endeavours to put a Stop
to any more Bloodshead that Way, and we hope that you
will desire the Governours to do their utmost in bringing
them over to us, as we are ſure there is nothing else draws
them but the large Presents which they make them

a Belt

Brother Warraghiyage

We have ſent to the River Indians
and Shawaneese to come to our Castle, to hear from their own Mouth

what they have to say for killing ſo many of our Brethren and if they should not come upon our Meſsage, we the Oneidos and Tuscarora Sachems are determined to go to them, and know the Reason of it.

Brother Warraghyage.

Governour Shirley promised to have a Fort built for us and Men to garriſson it, and not hearing any thing about it ſince, thinks he will defer it untill Spring, so hopes that you will have a Fort built immediatly and Men to garrison it, as we are certain the French waits for nothing else then the Lakes and Rivers to be shut, and then to fall upon us.

a String

Fort Johnson December 20th 1755. Robt Adams Secr.

Honoured Sir

Last night I arrived from John Harris's Ferry, and herewith inform you, that I did not reach my Home in Heidleberg Berks County, till the fourteenth of this Instant. I set out on the Sixteenth for Harris's Ferry, where I found no Indians but the Old-Belt and another Sinicker called commonly Broken-Thigh, a lame Man. Their young Men about Six or Seven in Number being sent out by John Harris to fetch Scalps from Ohio, but stopt at Achwick by Mr. Croghan. I sent for Thomas McKee, John Carson and Samuel Hunter to John Harris's to consult with them, how to send your Honours Message to the Indians on the West Branch of Susquehannah? They recommended one Hugh Crafford to me, on whom I prevailed to go to Achwick, with the Message, and from there send Indians to the West Branch of Susquehannah with it; and if the Indians thought it adviseable! to go with them, and conduct them down the River; either himself or James Pattison (who is to go along with him to Achwick) I had the two old Indians in Counsel with me. They received the Message from me, and Hugh Crafford received the Wampum I gave, and Necessaries for them, and the Written Invitation from me in the presence of the above named Gentlemen, I hope he will go through with it.

Upon my first Arrival at John Harris's I gave a String of Wampum to the two Old Indians above named, requesting them to look upon me as a public Messenger from their Brother Onas; and desired them in his behalf to let me know all that they knew about this War, and who it was, that murdered Onas's People? and for what Reason?

Next Morning they made Answer to the following Report: Brother! We are very glad to see you here once more; at these troublesome Times. We look upon you as our Brother Onas's Messenger, as we always did. The Author of the murder of the People of Pennsylvania, is Onontio & he employs his Children for that Purpose, and they came to this River (Susquehannah) to murder. We are sorry to tell you, that they have prevailed upon our Cousins, the Delaware living about Half Way from Shamokin to Seahantowano (Wayomack) in a Town called Neskopecken. Them Indians have given their Town (In Defiance of us their Uncles) to Onontio's Children as a place of their Rendevous, and had undertaken to join and Guide them the Way to the English. That thereupon the Shickelemys and others of the Six Nations, fled towards the Six Nation Country: That a Report was spread among the Delawares on that River; that the Pennsylvanians were coming, with Thousands to destroy the Indians on Susquehannah, which occasioned the Six Nation Indians before named to fly, because they would not fight against their Bretheren nor against the Indians and that every Thing was in great confusion. I am

Honored Sir Your most obedient

Heidelberg in the County of Berks

ember 22: 1755.

Conrad Weiser

P.S. Your Honour will have heard by this Time, that Paxton People took an Enemy Indian on the other side of the Narrows above Samuel Hunter's and brought him down to Carson's House, where they were examining him. The Indian begged his Life, and promised to tell all what he knew to morrow Morning, but (shocking to me) they shot him in the midst of them scalped him and threw his Body into the River. The Old Belt told me that as a Child of Onontio he deserved to be killed, but that he would have been very glad if they had delivered him up to the Governor in Order to be examined — stricter and better. I am

Honoured Sir
Your Most Obedient
C. Weiser

December the 22d. 1755

To Governor Morris

Conrad Weiser to Gov.r Morr
December 22d. 1755.

At a Council held at the State House the 25th Decem.r 1755 P.M.

Present

Robert Strettell
Benjamin Shoemaker
Joseph Turner
William Logan
Doctor Cadwallader } Esq.rs

The Secretary read a Letter directed to the Governor & in his absence to be opened by the Committee from Conrad Weiser who was sent with a Message from the Governor to invite the Indians on the West Branch of Susquehannah to meet the Governor at the proposed Indian Treaty at Harris's Ferry: But the Governor being daily expected in Town from New York. the Council don't think it proper to give it any other answer but that notice be given by the Clerk of the Council to Conrad Weiser that he don't for the future direct his Letters so improperly as to be opened in the absence of the Governor by the Committee or any others than by the president & Council.

A Letter to Governor Morris from Conrad Weiser Esquire.

Honoured Sir,

Last night I arrived from John Harris's Ferry, and herewith inform you that I did not reach my home in Heidleburgh Berks C.y till the fourteenth of this instant. I sat out on the 16 from Harris's Ferry where I found no Indians but the Old Belt and another Sinicker called commonly Broken Thigh a lame man.

Their Young men about six or seven in number being sent out by John Harris to fetch Scalps from Ohio, but stopt at Aughwick by M.r Croghan. I sent for Thomas M.cKee, John Carson and Samuel Hunter to John Harris's to consult with them how to send your Honour's Message to the Indians on the West Branch of Susquehannah? They recommended one Hugh Crawford to me on whom I prevailed to go to Aughwick with the Message and from there send Indians to the West Branch of Sasquehanah with it, and if the Indians thought it advisable, to go with them, and conduct them (down the River either himself or James Pattison: (who is to go along with him to Aughwick) I had the two old Indians in Council with me. They received the Message from me and Hugh Crafford received the Wampum I gave & necessaries for them and the written Invitation from me in presence of the above named Gentlemen. I hope he will go thro with it.

Upon my first arrival at John Harris's I gave a string of Wampum to the two old Indians above mentioned requesting them to look upon me as a publick Messenger from their Brother Onas, and desired them in his behalf to let me know all that they knew about this Warr and who it was that murdered Onas's people? and for what reason?

Next morning they made answer to the following purport:

Brother, We are very glad to see you here once more at these troublesome times We look upon you as our Brother Onas's Messenger as we always did. The author of the Murder of the people of Pennsylvania is Onontio, he employs his Children for that purpose, and they came to this River (Susquehanah) to Murder, We are sorry to tell you that they have prevailed upon our Cousins the Delawares living about halfway from Shamokin to Schantowano

(Wayomack) in a Town called Nescopeckon. Them Indians have given their Town: (in defiance of us their Uncles:) to Onontio's Children as a place of their Rendevous and had undertaken to join and guide them the way to the English. That thereupon the Sheckelamy's and others of the Six Nations fled towards the Six Nations Country; That a Report was spread among the Delawares on that river, that the Pennsylvanians were coming with thousands to destroy the Indians on Sasquehanah, which had occasioned the Six Nation Indians before named to fly, because they would not fight against their Brethren, nor against the Indians, & that every thing was in a great Confusion. I am

Honoured Sir

Heidleberg in the County of Berks Decemr. 22. 1755

Your most Obedient

Conrad Weiser

P. S. Your Honour will have heard by this time that Paxton people took an Enemy Indian on the other side of the Narrows above Samuel Hunters and brought him down to Carson's House, where they examining him. The Indian begged his Life and promised to tell all what he knew to morrow morning, but (shocking to me) they shott him in the midst of them, scalped him and threw his Body into the River. The old Belt told me that as a Chid of Onontio he deserved to be killed, but that he would have been very glad if they had delivered him up to the Governor in order to be examined stricter and better. I am

Honoured Sir,

Decemr. ye 22. 1755

Your most Obedient

To Governor Morris.

Conrad Weiser.

A Letter was likewise read directed to Governor Morris from Mr. Hamilton giving a detail of affairs done by him and the Committee at Easton.

A Letter to Governor Morris from Mr. Hamilton.

Easton Monday Evening Decr. 25. 1755

Dear Sir,

The Commissioners came to this Town on Saturday Evening where we found the Country under the greatest Consternation & every thing that has been said of the distress of the Inhabitants more than verified upon our own view. The Country along the River is absolutely deserted from this place to Broadheads, nor can there be the least Communication between us and them but by large Parties of armed Men, every body being afraid to venture without that security so that we have had no accounts from thence for several days. Broadheads was stoutly defended by his sons and others till the Indians thought fit to retire without being able to take it or set it on fire though they frequently attempted it, it is thought several of them were killed in the attacks, but that is not known with certainty.

We have now here upwards of 100 Men being the Companies of Capt^{n} Aston Captain Trump and Capt^{n} M^{c}Glaughlen and are impatiently expecting more from below, for the people here are not very numerous, & are besides very backward in entery into the Service tho' the encouragement is great, and one would think they would gladly embrace the opportunity of revenging themselves on the authors of their ruin but the terror that has seized them is so great, or their Spirits so small, that unless men come from other parts of the Province I despair of getting such a number here as will be sufficient, to Garrison the Block houses we proposed to build over the Hills, whither we intended to have gone to morrow but that our Provision Waggons are not come up, and that we have not men enough for the above mentioned purposes

I understand that Aaron Depui is still at home & that it is very unlikely that he will be able to leave his House in this time of Distress to carry your Message to Wyoming, so that I believe the Expectations of the Treaty will fall to the Ground, nor does any body either here or there believe we have a single Indian that may be called a friend nor do I see a possibility of getting that Message conveyed to them from hence, even supposing they were ffriends, every body is so afraid of stirring a step, without a strong Guard.

I heartily wish you were at Liberty to declare Warr against them and offer large rewards for Scalps which appears the only way to clear our Frontiers of those Savages, & will I am persuaded be infinitly cheapest in the end. For I clearly foresee the expence of defending ourselves in the way we are in, will ruin the Province & be far from effectual at last; principally for want of a good Militia Law by which the men might be subjected to discipline, for at present they enter themselves & then leave their Captains at their own humour without a power in the Officers to punish them for that or any other Misbehaviour.

I have Commissioned several Captains here, who engage to raise men, but principally two, who have undertaken to range the Country between the two Branches of this River for the Security of the two Irish Settlements, in hopes that those who had deserted by the whole of those on the Main Branch may be induced to return to their Plantations, which after all I very much question, so very great are their apprehensions of the Indians.

I cannot say for certain when we shall leave this place that depending on the coming up of the Provisions, and our getting a sufficient number of men. — Many of those already here not being able to march for want of Shoes, which has obliged us to send down for a Supply to Philadelphia.

I have but a moments time to write, the Express being ready to depart. I shall from time to time keep you informed of any thing that may be worth your notice, but at present, nothing of that kind offers.

I am with great Respect

Sir Your most Obed^{t} Servant

James Hamilton

Governor Morris

At a Council held at the State House, the 25th December, 1755, P. M.

"PRESENT:

Robert Strettell,	William Logan,	Esqrs.
Benjamin Shoemaker,	Doctor Cadwallader,	
Joseph Turner,		

The Secretary read a Letter directed to the Governor, & in his absence to be opened by the Committee, from Conrad Weiser, who was sent with a Message from the Governor to invite the Indians on the West Branch of Sasquehannah to meet the Governor at the proposed Indian Treaty at Harris' Ferry, But the Governor being daily expected in Town from New York the Council don't think it proper to give it any other answer but that notice be given by the Clerk of the Council to Conrad Weiser that he don't for the future direct his Letters so improperly as to be opened in the absence of the Governor by the Committee or any others than by the President & Council.

A Letter to Governor Morris from Conrad Weiser, Esqr.

"Honoured Sir:

"Last night I arrived from John Harris' Ferry, and herewith inform you that I did not reach my home in Heidleburgh, Berks Cy., till the fourteenth of this instant. I set out on the 16th from Harris' Ferry, where I found no Indians but the Old Belt and another Sinicker, called commonly Broken Thigh, a lame man.

"Their Young men, about six or seven in number, being sent out by John Harris to fetch Scalps from Ohio, but stopt at Aughwick by Mr. Croghan, I sent for Thomas McKee, John Carson, and Samuel Hunter to John Harris' to consult with them how to send your Honour's Message to the Indians on the West Branch of Sasquehannah. They recommended one Hugh Crawford to me, on whom I prevailed to go to Aughwick with the Message, and from there send Indians to the West Branch of Sasquehannah with it, and if the Indians thought it adviseable to go with them and conduct them down the river, either himself or James Pattison (who is to go along with him to Aughwick). I had the two old Indians in Council with me. They received the Message from me, and Hugh Crawford received the Wampum I gave & necessaries for them and the written invitation from me, in presence of the above named Gentlemen. I hope he will go thro' with it.

"Upon my first arrival at John Harris' I gave a string of Wampum to the two old Indians above mentioned, requesting them to look upon me as a publick Messenger from their Brother Onas, and desired them in his behalf to let me know all that they knew about this Warr and who it was that murdered Onas' people, and for what reason?

"Next morning they made answer to the following purport. 'Brother: We are very glad to see you here once more at these troublesome times. We look upon you as our Brother Onas' Messenger as we always did. The author of the Murder of the people of Pennsylvania is Onontio; he employs his Children for that purpose, and they came to this River (Sasquehanah) to murder. We are sorry to tell you that they have prevailed upon our Cousins, the Delawares, living about half way from Shamokin to Schantowano, (Wayomack), in a Town called Nescopeckon. Them Indians have given their Town (in defiance of us their Uncle's) to Onontio's Children as a place of their Rendevous, and had undertaken to join and guide them the way to the English. That thereupon the Sheckelemy's and others of the Six Nations fled towards the Six Nation Country; That a Report was spread among the Delawares on that river, that the Pennsylvanians were coming with thousands to destroy the Indians on Sasquehannah, which had occasioned the Six Nation Indians before named to fly because they would not fight against their Brethren nor against the Indians, & that every thing was in a great Confusion.

"I am, Honoured Sir, Your most obedient,

"CONRAD WEISER.

"Heidleburg, in the County of Berks, Decem$^{r.}$ 22, 1755.

"P. S.—Your Honour will have heard by this time that Paxton people took an enemy Indian on the other side of the Narrows above Samuel Hunter's and brought him down to Carson's House, where they examining him, The Indian begged his Life and promised to tell all what he knew to-morrow morning, but (shocking to me) they shott him in the midst of them, scalped him and threw his Body into the River. The Old Belt told me that as a child of Onontio he deserved to be killed, but that he would have been very glad if they had delivered him up to the Governor in order to be examined stricter and better.

"I am, Honoured Sir, Your most obedient,

"CONRAD WEISER.

"Decem$^{r.}$ y^{e} 22, 1755.

"To Governor MORRIS."

A Letter was likewise read directed to Governor Morris from Mr. Hamilton, giving a detail of affairs done by him at the Committee at Easton:

A Letter to Governor Morris from Mr. Hamilton.

"EASTON, Monday Evening, Dec$^{r.}$ 25, 1755,

"Dear Sir:

"The Commissioners came to this Town on Saturday Evening, where we found the Country under the greatest Consternation, & every thing that has been said of the distress of the Inhabitants, more than verified upon our own view. The Country along the River is absolutely deserted from this place to Broadhead's, nor can there be the least Communication between us and them but by large Parties of armed Men, every body being afraid to venture without that security, so that we have had no accounts from thence for several days. Broadhead's was stoutly defended by his sons and others, till the Indians thought fit to retire without being able to take it, or set it on fire, tho' they frequently attempted it, it is thought several of them were killed in the attacks, but that is not known with certainty.

"We have now here upwards of 100 Men, being the Companies of Captn. Aston, Captain Trump, and Captn. McGlaughlin, and are impatiently expecting more from below, for the people here are not very numerous, & are besides very backward in entery into the Service, tho' the Encouragement is great, and one would think they would gladly embrace the opportunity of revenging themselves on the authors of their ruin; but the terror that has seized them, is so great, or their Spirits so small, that unless men come from other parts of the Province I despair of getting such a number here as will be sufficient to Garrison the Block Houses we proposed to build over the Hills, whither we intended to have gone to-morrow, but that our Provision Waggons are not come up, and that we have not men enough for the above mentioned purposes.

"I understand that Aaron Dupui is still at home, & that it is very unlikely that he will be able to leave his House in this time of Distress, to carry your Message to Wyoming, so that I believe the Expectations of the Treaty will fall to the Ground, nor does any body either here or there believe we have a single Indian that may be called a Friend, nor do I see a possibility of getting that Message conveyed to them from hence, even supposing they were ffriends; every body is so afraid of stirring a step without a strong guard.

"I heartily wish you were at Liberty to declare Warr against them, and offer large rewards for Scalps, which appears the only way to clear our Frontiers of those Savages, & will, I am persuaded be infinitely cheapest in the end; For I clearly forsee the expence of defending ourselves in the way we are in will ruin the province, and be far from effectual at last, principally for want of a Good Militia Law by which the men might be subjected to discipline, for at present they enter themselves and then leave their Captains at their own humour, without a person in the Officers to punish them for that or any other Misbehaviour.

"I have Commissioned several Captains here, who engage to raise men, but principally two, who have undertaken to range the Country between the two Branches of this River, for the Security of the two Irish Settlements in hopes that those who had defected by the whole of those on the main Branch, may be induced to return to their Plantations, which after all I very much question, so very great are their apprehensions of the Indians.

"I cannot say for certain when we shall leave this place, that depending on the coming up of the Provisions and our getting a sufficient number of men; Many of those already here not being able to march for want of Shoes, which has obliged us to send down for a Supply to Philadelphia.

"I have but a moment's time to write, the Express being ready to depart. I shall from time to time keep you informed of any thing that may be worth your notice, but at present nothing of that kind offers.

"I am, with great Respect, Sir, Your most obedt. Servant,

"JAMES HAMILTON.

"Governor Morris."

At a Council held at Philadª. 29th December, 1755, A. M.

PRESENT:

The Honble. ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor, &ca.

Benjamin Shoemaker, Richard Peters, } Esquires.
William Logan, Doctor Cadwallader, }

The Governor acquainted the Council with his having attended the Council of War at New York in persuance of General Shirley's sumons to him, and which the result of the Determinations of that Council and also of the Council of several of the Governors who met afterwards to consult chiefly on Indian Affairs, so far as he was at Liberty to communicate to them such Determinations, it having been resolved at the said Council of War that the principal Articles in the plan of Operations then agreed upon should for the present be kept secret.

At a Council held at Philadª the 29th December, 1755, P. M.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esqr. Lieutenant Governor, &ca.

Robert Strettell, John Mifflin, }
Benjamin Shoemaker, Doctor Cadwalader, } Esquires.
Richard Peters, }

The Governor acquainted the Council that nine setts of Officers together, so that I may go to New York for a Fortnight and settle affairs, and be back ere they are assembled.

I am Your Excellencys
Most obedient and most humble Servant
Wm Johnson

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE[1]

Copy[2]

At a meeting of the Mohawks, Oneidas, and Tuscaroras, December 26. 1755.

Sequareefere, a chief of Tuscarora, spoke.

Brother Warraghiyage,[3]

We return you our hearty thanks for the care you take of us in supplying us with ammunition, large guns and paint; as we do not know how soon the enemy will come upon us: we have been speaking to our eldest brothers these four years, about having a place of defence made against the French, but could never bring them to a conclusion until now, having promised to join and assist our brothers the English against any attempts which the French shall make upon them.

A string of wampum.

Canaghquayeson spoke.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We join with our brothers, the Tuscaroras, in returning you our hearty thanks for advising us to be upon our guard against the malicious designs of the French, and that you would supply us with ammunition, large guns, paint, &c.

A belt.

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[1] At Fort Johnson.

[2] Printed in *An Account of Conferences held and Treaties made Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, 5–7.

[3] The name given by the Mohawks to Johnson.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We own we have been lost or drunk these several years past, in not listening to you and our youngest brothers in joining the two castles together; but we have now opened our ears which have been stopped, and are determined to live and die with you.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

You acquainted us some time ago, of the designs of the French in encroaching upon our hunting-grounds, and advised us to be on our guard against them, or otherwise they would come and dispossess and destroy us all; it seems to us now that they had blinded our eyes, and it is plain to us as the sun that rises in the morning, that they had it in view.

No doubt but you have heard that the French had invited us to meet them at Swegatsy; but we have taken a firm resolution never to listen to any but yourself: we don't speak this from our lips only, but it comes from the bottom of our hearts.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

You blame us for not taking care of our allies to the southward, but we assure you we have some time ago sent four large belts to them, desiring they would not join with any but whom the five nations joined; and since we are imformed [*sic*] that the belts and messages we sent were directly made known to the French. Now, brother, we have sent another message, desiring that they would come and speak with us; and be assured we will do our utmost endeavours to put a stop to any more bloodshed that way; and we hope, that you will desire the governors to do their utmost in bringing them over to us, as we are sure there is nothing draws them from us but the large presents which the French makes them.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We have sent to the River-indians and Shawanese to come to our castle, to hear from their own mouths what they have to say for their killing so many of our brothers; and if they should not come upon our message, we the Oneidas, and Tuscaroras Sachems, are determined to go to them and know the reason of it.

Governor Shirley promised to have a fort built for us, and men to garrison it; and not hearing any thing about it since, we think he will defer it until spring; so hope that you will have a fort built immediately, and men to garrison it, as we are certain the French only wait a favourable opportunity to fall upon us.

A string.

FROM GIDEON HAWLEY

Copy

Copy of a letter of the Rev. Mr. Hawley at Onehughquagey, to the honourable William Johnson, dated *Onehughquagey, December 27. 1755.*

VERY HONOURED SIR,

The Sachems who went from hence with your message to the Delawares, just now returned from Tiaogo, and desire me to pen the following letter to your honour; in which you have a brief account how the quarrel between the English and Delawares began, and what has happened since, according to the account which we have from Tiaogo. In which also your honour has the answer of the Delawares to the message you sent them by the bearer hereof, and a short speech which those Indians desired me to pen relative to the affairs. Your honour will pardon me if I am not so particular in my narration as the Indians are in telling a story. The letter which I am desired to write, except abbreviations, is as follows:

BROTHER JOHNSON,

We have been to Tiaogo upon your affairs. In the first place we relate what news we hear; the Indians there inform us that

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[1] Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours* . . ., 10–14.

At a Council held at Philad.a the 29th December 1755 P.M.

Present

The Honble Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor &c.a
Robert Strettell John Mifflin
Benjamin Shoemaker Doctor Cadwallader } Esq.rs
Richard Peters

The Governor acquainted the Council that nine Setts of Officers of so many Companies within the City said to be chosen under the Militia Law in adding a Sett for the Artillery Company had been presented to him in the Forenoon for his Approbation and Commissions but without returning any Certificate of their Election or any Lists of the names or numbers of the Persons of which the several Companys consisted who had chosen the s.d Officers respectively, save that a proper List had been returned for the Northward And desired the Councils opinion whether he should grant Commissions to the said Officers without having the Lists of the names of their respective Companys as formed under the Act presented to him with the Officers.

The Council unanimously declared their opinion that the Companys should agreeable to the Militia Act be first formed and that Lists of the names of them respectively returned to the Governor when the Officers were presented to him for his Approbation in order that he may be able to judge whether they are all Freemen and qualified according to the said Law for choosing Officers before he grants the Commissions to the Officers

The Council taking into Consideration the List of the Comp.y formed, and whose names are in the said List returned for Northward do approve thereof and recommend it to the Governor to issue the Commissions to the Officers chosen by the said Company for Northward viz.t John Lawrence Capt.n Henry Stepley Lieut.t and Tho.s Lloyd Ensign as mentioned in the said return

And also a List of the Company of Freemen of the City to the number of 66 who have voluntarily associated themselves to form a Company for assisting in the defence of the City being now presented to the Governor with their Officers by them chosen as in the said List viz.t William Vanderspiegle Capt.n William Henry 1st Lieut.t Joseph Wood 2.nd Lieutenant and John Blackwood Ensign the Council approve thereof & recommend it to the Governor to grant Commissions to the said Officers accordingly.

And all the said Commissions were ordered to be made out accordingly.

Then was read a Narrative made by the Secretary of the Incursions and Ravages made by the French and Indians to this day, which was ordered to be entered.

A Brief Narrative of the Incursions and Ravages of the French & Indians in the Province of Pennsylvania.

1755 Octr. 18th A Party of Indians fell upon the Inhabitants on Mahanahy Creek that runs into the river Sasquehannah about five Miles lower than the Great Fork made by the Junction of the two main Branches of that river killed and carried off twenty five persons & burnt and destroyed their Buildings and Improvements, and the whole settlement was deserted

23d. Forty six of the Inhabitants on Sasquehannah went to Shamokin to enquire of the Indians there who they were who had so cruelly fallen upon and ruined the Settlements on Mahanahy Creek, but as they were repassing Mahanahy Creek on their return from Shamokin they were fired upon by some Indians who lay in Ambush, and four were killed, four drowned & the rest put to flight on which all the Settlements between Shamokin & Hunters Mill for the space of 50 Miles along the River Sasquehannah were deserted.

31st An Indian Trader and two other men in the Tuscorara Valley were killed by Indians and their Houses &ca burnt on which most of the Settlers fled and abandoned their Plantations

Novem.r 2.nd The Settlem.ts in the Great Cove attacked, their Houses burnt, six persons murdered and seventeen carried away, and the whole broke up & destroy'd.

3d. Two women are carried away from Conegocheage by the Indians & the same day the Canalaways and Little Cove, two other considerable settlem.ts were attacked by them, their Houses burnt &c. the whole Settlements deserted.

16. A Party of Indians crossed the Sasquehannah and fell upon the County of Berks, murdered 13 Persons, burnt a great number of Houses destroyed vast quantities of Cattle, Grain and Fodder and laid waste a large extent of Country

24st. A fine Settlement of Moravians called Gnadenhütten, situate in Northampton County on the West Branch of the river Delaware was attack'd, six of them killed, and their Dwelling Houses, Meeting house and all their Outhouses burnt to Ashes with all the Grain, Hay Horses and upwards of forty head of fat Cattle that were under Cover.

Decem: During all this Month the Indians have been burning and destroying all before them in the County of Northampton and have already burnt fifty Houses here, murdered above one hundred persons & are still continuing their Ravages Murders and Devastations &

have actually overrun and laid waste a great part of that County even as far as within twenty miles of Easton its chief Town. And a large Body of Indians under the Direction of French Officers have fixed their head Quarters within the Borders of that County for the better security of their prisoners & plunder

This is a brief account of the progreſs of these Savages since the Eighteenth day of October, on which day was committed the first Inroad ever made by Indians upon this Province since its first Settlement, and in consequence hereof all our Frontier Country which extends from the River Potowmac to the River Delaware not leſs than one hundred & fifty miles in length, and between twenty and thirty in breadth but not fully settled, has been entirely deserted, the Houses and improvements reduced to Ashes, the Cattle, Horses, Grain Goods & Effects of the Inhabitants either destroyed, burned or carried off by the Indians — Whilst the poor Planters with their Wives, Children and Servants, who could get away, being without Arms or any kind of Defence, have been obliged in this severe season of the Year to abandon their Habitations naked and without any support, and throw themselves on the Charity of the other Inhabitants within the interior parts of the Province, upon whom they are very heavy Burthen

Such shocking Descriptions are given, by those who have escaped, of the horrid Cruelties and indecencies committed by these mercileſs Savages on the Bodies of the unhappy wretches who fell into their Barbarous hands especially the Women, without regard to Sex or Age as far exceeds those related of the most abandoned Pirates! Which has occasioned a general Consternation and has struck so great a pannick and Damp upon the Spirits of the people, that hitherto they have not been able to make any considerable resistance or stand against the Indians —

All our accounts agree in this that the French since the defeat of General Braddock have gained over to their Interest the Delawares, Shawonese and many other Indian Nations formerly in our Alliance and on whom thro' fear and their large promises of Rewards for Scalps and aſsurances of reinstating them in the Poſseſsion of the Lands they have sold to the English, they have prevailed to take up Arms against us and to join heartily with them in the execution of the grand scheme they have been long meditating of obtaining the poſseſsion of all the Country between the river Ohio and the River Susquehannah and to secure that poſseſsion by building a strong Fort at Shamokin which by its so advantageous a situation at the Conflux of the two main Branches of Susquehannah (one whereof interlocks with the waters of the Ohio and the other heads in the Center of the Country of the Six Nations) will command and make the French entire Masters of all that extensive, rich and fertile Country and of all the Trade with the Indians — And from whence they can at pleasure enter and annoy our Territories, and put an effectual stop to the future extention of our Settlements on that Quarter not to mention the many other obvious Miſchiefs and fatal Consequences that must attend their having a Fort at Shamokin —

Note

Pennsylvania 1755

Note Some Fachinies have been lately discovered floating down the River Susquehannah a little below Shamokin, by which, as the Indians were never known to use Fachines it is conjectured the French have begun and are actually building a Fort at that most important place

Philada.
29th Decemr. 1755

At a Council held at Philada. 30th Decemr. 1755 P.M.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esqr. Lieutent. Govr. &ca.

Robert Strettell	Richard Peters	Esqrs.
Benjamin Shoemaker	Benjamin Chew	
Joseph Turner	Doctr. Cadwalader	

The Governor laid before the Council a Return of the Election of the several Officers chosen for nine Companys of the proposed City Militia subscribed and returned by two Freemen of each Ward in and for which the said Companys were formed and desired their opinion whether such Certificate was sufficient to justify him in granting Commissions to such of the Officers mentioned in the said return as he should personally approve of & that if they inclined to alter the mode settled by the Council in the Minute of Yesterday that they would assign their reasons for making such alterations

The said return being read and the Council taking the same into Consideration, and that the Militia Act having prescribed no form of makg. the Returns of the Election of the Officers of the Companys to be formed under the said Act And it being represented to the Council that many of the Freemen of whom the said nine Companys consist were under strong tho unreasonable apprehensions of suffering some Damage by their names being particularly mentioned in the returns of the Elections of their Officers; and that it was not usual to return the names of the several associated Companys for the City — when they presented their Officers to the Governor for his approbation in the late War and the Council being desirous to throw as few obstacles as possible in the way of the Freemen of the Province forming into Companys and improving themselves in Military Discipline. All the Council present (except Mr. Shoemaker who adheres to the Minute of Yesterday) think it advisable for the

Governor

Families and contributing their reasonable Quota towards any future Expedition his Majesty may set on Foot on this Continent against his Enemies, nor how much his Service in general will be affected and prejudiced by the Deficiency in the Quantities of Grain and other Provisions usually raised in, and I presume expected to be supplied from this Province, that must necessarily follow our Farmers losing so many of their Servants, especially now after the Loss of the Produce of so much of the Lands in our back Counties, which are laid waste and deserted by the terrible Slaughter and Havock made amongst the Inhabitants there by the Indians. When I consider the irreparable Calamities that a Measure of this sort will entail on great Numbers of the Inhabitants of this Infant and late flourishing Colony, and call to mind your known Humanity and Regard for Justice, I cannot doubt but you will be pleased to give Orders to your Officers recruiting here against enlisting indented Servants, and for the restoring to their Masters such as are now detained from them, and am,

"Your Excellency's most humble Servant,

"ROBT. STRETTELL,

"Presidt. of the Council.

"Philadelphia, January 24th, 1756."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Thursday, 29th January, 1756.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell,	Benjamin Chew,	Esquires.
Benjamin Shoemaker,	Lynford Lardner,	
William Logan,	John Mifflin,	
Joseph Turner,	Thomas Cadwalader,	
Richard Peters,		

The Several Minutes of the Proceedings of the Council, in the Governor's Absence, being now read and approved by his Honour, he directed that they should be entered in their Order of Dates.

The Governor communicated to the Council a full and particular Account of his Conferences and Proceedings with the few Indians who met him at the proposed Indian Treaty at Harris' Ferry and Carlisle, and with the Conestogoe Indians at Lancaster, and of the Measures he had taken with the Commissioners for defending the Province against the Incursions and Ravages of the Indians, &c., by erecting Forts or Block Houses at divers proper Places on or near the Frontier of the settled Parts of the Province, and hiring several Companies under proper Officers for the garrisoning them, &c., with the several other material Transactions of his late Journey, and then the Minutes of the Indian Treaty, &c., were read, with all which the Gentlemen of the Council, appeared well pleased, and unanimously declared their approbation, and they were ordered to be entered as follows:

"At a Meeting of the Governor and Commissioners at Reading, Friday the 2nd January, 1756.

"PRESENT:

"The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

"James Hamilton,
"Benjamin Franklin, } Esquires.
"Joseph Fox,

"The Governor and Commissioners not thinking it right to come to a Determination on several important matters that had been under their Consideration, until it could be known what Number of Indians would come to the proposed Treaty, and with what Dispositions, it was agreed to proceed immediately to hold that Treaty, and as at Harris' there was but one single House and few Conveniences, Mr. Weiser was called in and asked if it might not be better to hold it at Carlisle, where all the Business of the County might be done at the same Time, and proper entertainment provided as well. for the Governor and his Company, and for the Indians should they prove numerous.

"Mr. Weiser in answer said, it was his Opinion, that such of the Sasquehannah Indians as were true to us, had removed either among the Six Nations, or to the uppermost Branches of Sasquehannah, and that the rest, headed perhaps by a few French, and some of the Shawonese and Delawares from Ohio, were the Indians now perpetrating the Mischiefs in Northampton County, and as these were begun before Mr. Dupui and his Company were set out for the Sasquehannah, they would be thereby prevented from going, and that tho' Hugh Crawford, the Indian Trader, had at his Instance undertaken to carry the Governor's Invitation to the Wyomink Indians by the way of Sasquehannah, and to get Indians at Aucquick to go with him as a Safeguard, yet having heard nothing of him, he was apprehensive that he either was not gone or had no Success. He added further that most of the Indians who used to be at Harris' were gone to Mr. Croghan's at Aucquick, and none that he knew of remained there except the Old Belt and an Indian called, by reason he was lame, the Broken Thigh. For these Reasons he doubted whether any Number of Indians would come to Harris', and as Carlisle was nearer to Aucquick and Mr. Croghan might have Notice by Express to attend there and bring the Indians along with him, he thought Carlisle the better place.

"And accordingly an Express was dispatched to Mr. Buchanan and Mr. Croghan, to inform them that the Governor and Commissioners wou'd set out on Monday for Carlisle, and hold the Treaty there instead of Harris', and desired everything necessary might be prepared against they came there and the Indians brought to Town."

"At a Council held at the House of Mr. John Harris, on Sasquehannah, in Pextany Township, Lancaster County, on Thursday the 8th January, 1756.

"PRESENT:

"The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

"James Hamilton, } Esquires.
"Richard Peters, }
"Joseph Fox, Esquire, Commissioner.

"Two Indians of the Six Nations, called

"The Belt of Wampum,	A Seneca.
"The Broken Thigh,	A Mohock.

"Conrad Weiser, Esquire, Interpreter.

"The Governor finding here only two Indians and their Families, he sent for them into Council and spoke as follows:

"'Brethren:

"'I thank you for staying here. You see that agreeably to my message I am come at the Time appointed, but I find no other Indians here than you two, and indeed I expect no more, as I believe my Messengers were prevented going to Wyomink by the Ravages of the Indians which began in their Neighbourhood at the Time they were preparing to set out on their Journey.

"'Brethren:

"'The publick Business requires my presence at Carlisle where I am now going, and I invite you to go along with me. If you incline to take any of your Families with you I shall readily agree to it, and provide a Carriage for them and you.'

"A String.

"To this the Belt replied:

"'Brethren:

"'I thank you for sending for us to Council, and for your kind Speech. What you have said is very agreeable.

"'Brethren:

"'The sky is dark all around us. The Mischiefs done to you I consider as done to the Six Nations, and am sorry for what has happened, and heartily condole with you upon it; but be not disheartened. As the publick Business is committed to you nothing should be suffered to lye on your Minds that might in any wise impair your Judgement, which is now more necessary than ever. Let me, therefore, by this String entreat you to put away all Grief from your Hearts and dry up your Tears that you may think and see clearly when you come to Council.

"'I accept your Invitation and shall follow you to Carlisle.'

"Gave a String."

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"At a Council held at Carlisle, Tuesday the 13th January, 1756.

"PRESENT:

"The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esq., Lieutenant Governor.

"James Hamilton, William Logan, } Esquires.
"Richard Peters,

"Joseph Fox, Esquire, Commissioner,

"Mr. Croghan.

"Mr. Croghan having been desired by the Governor in December last to do all in his Power to gain Intelligence of the Motions and Designs of the Indians, and being now in Town was sent for into Council, and at the Instance of the Governor gave the following Information, viz': 'That he sent Delaware Jo, one of our Friendly Indians, to the Ohio for Intelligence, who returned to his House at Aucquick the eighth Instant, and informed him that he went to Kittannin, an Indian Delaware Town on the Ohio about forty Miles above Fort Duquesne, the Residence of Chingas and Captain Jacobs, where he found one hundred and forty Men chiefly Delawares and Shawonese, who had then with them above one hundred English Prisoners big and little taken from Virginia and Pennsylvania.

"'That there the Beaver, Brother of Chingas, told him that the Governor of Fort Duquesne had often offered the French Hatchet to the Shawonese and Delawares, who had as often refused it, declaring they would do as they should be advised by the Six Nations; but that in April or May last a Party of Six Nation Warriors in Company with some Caghnawagos and Adirondacks called at the French Fort in their going to War against the Southern Indians, and on these the Governor of Fort Duquesne prevailed to offer the French Hatchet to the Delawares and Shawonese who received it from them and went directly against Virginia.

"'That neither the Beaver nor several others of the Shawonese and Delawares approved of this measure nor had taken up the

Hatchet, and the Beaver believed some of those who had were sorry for what they had done, and would be glad to make up Matters with the English.

"'That from Kittannin he went to the Log's Town, where he found about one hundred Indians and thirty English Prisoners taken by the Shawonese living at the Lower Shawonese Town from the western Frontier of Virginia and sent up to Log's Town. He was told the same thing by these Shawonese that the Beaver had told him before respecting their striking the English by the advise of some of the Six Nations, and further he was informed that the French had sollicited the Indians to sell them the English Prisoners, which they had refused, declaring they would not dispose of them, but keep them until they should receive Advice from the Six Nations what to do with them.

"'That there are more or less of the Six Nations living with the Shawonese and Delawares in their Towns, and these always accompanied them in their Incursions upon the English and took Part with them in the War..

"'That when at Log's Town, which is near Fort Duquesne, on the opposite Side of the River, he intended to have gone there to see what the French were doing in that Fort, but could not cross the River for the driving of the Ice; he was, however, informed the Number of the French did not exceed four hundred.

"'That he returned to Kittannin, and there learned that Ten Delawares were gone to the Sasquehannah, and as he supposed to persuade those Indians to strike the English who might perhaps be concerned in the Mischief lately done in the County of Northampton.'

"No more than Seven Indians being as yet come to Carlisle Mr. Croghan was asked the Reason of it; he said that the Indians were mostly gone an hunting, but he expected as many more at least would come in a day or two.

"Mr. Weiser was then sent for and it was taken into Consideration what should be said to the Indians."

"At a Council held at Carlisle, Wednesday the 14th January, 1756.

"PRESENT :

"The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

"James Hamilton, William Logan, } Esquires.
"Richard Peters, }

"Joseph Fox, Esquire, Commissioner.

"Mr. Weiser, Mr. Croghan, Aroas, or Silver Heels.

"Mr. Hamilton informed the Governor and Council that in November last, being at John Harris' and finding the People collected there in the utmost Confusion, and in continual Fear of being fallen upon by a large Body of French and Indians, who were said by Scarrooyady and Montour to have passed the Allegheny Hills in their march towards this Province, he had promised Aroas, an Indian of the Six Nations, then at Harris', called in English Silver Heels, that he would give him an handsome Reward if he would undertake to go along the east Side of Sasquehannah, as far as to Shamokin and Nescopecka, to observe what was doing by the Indians there and return with the Intelligence. He accordingly went, and not having received any Consideration for his Journey, he was called in and desired to relate what he found doing among the Indians there, and he gave the following account: 'That he found no Indians at Shamokin, and therefore proceeded higher up Sasquehannah, as far as to Nescopecka, where he saw one hundred and forty Indians, all Warriors; that they were dancing the War Dance; expressed great Bitterness against the English, and were preparing for an Expedition against them, and he thought would go to the Eastward. He did not stay with them, finding them in this Disposition, but went to the House of an Uncle of his, at a little Distance from Nescopecka, between that and Wyomink, who told him the Delawares and Shawonese on the Ohio were persuaded by the French to strike the English, and had put the Hatchet into the Hands of the Sasquehannah Indians, a great many of whom had taken it greedily and there was no persuading them to the Contrary, and that they would do abundance of Mischief to the People of Pennsylvania, against whom they were preparing to go to War.' After which Mr. Croghan said he was well assured by Accounts given him by other Indians, that the Delawares and Shawonese acted in this hostile Manner by the Advice and with the concurrence of the Six Nations, and that such of these as lived in the Delaware Towns went along with them and took Part in their Incursions, and, further, that a Party of the Six Nations had brought some of the Cherokees from their Country and settled them on the

Ohio at Kentucke River, about one hundred Miles below the Lower Shawonese Town, where they are now living.

"Mr. Croghan was asked why the Delawares he sent to the Ohio did not come with the other Indians, and he said that he had undertaken to carry a Message from one of his Relations whom he saw on the Ohio to some of his Friends on the Susquehannah, and was gone upon that Errand; he further said that he had sent for the white Mingo and several other Indians of Consequence, and he hoped they would come, but he must inform the Governor that great Differences had arose between the White Mingo and the Belt about a Successor to Tanacharisson, that they were in great Heats & Parties about it, and if any thing hindered the White Mingo from coming, it would be hearing that the Belt was already at Carlisle.

"It was then again taken into Consideration what should be said to the Indians, and in Substance agreed to."

END OF VOL. VI.

Hundred Men and Fifty One Officers, on or before the First Day of January next.

A true Copy,

RICHARD PETERS,

Secretary.

By his Honour's Command delivered to the Mayor, 24th Dec^{r}.*

Mem. of Conrad Weiser respecting Indians, 1756.

Pro Memoria, to meselve.

I can never agree that the Indian came to complain about their lands or some of it being fraudulently got from them, but they were pressed for reasons why they struck us, and gave that for one of their reasons, but I am satisfied, that it was put into their mouth some time before. Witness Sauer's news after the Treaty in July, in Easton, upon that head we want no treaty, without they, the Indians require it. We want no mediator between the proprietors & the Indians about land affair between us & the Delawares, before the proprietors pleasur is known and the Six nations Consulted.

I should be glad if the Indians on Ohio could be spoke to, let them be brought (by means of Sir William Johnson) to us or to the Mohocks Country, or join our invitation with hisen if he pleases.

Conrad Weiser to R. Peters 1756.

Dec. 31, 1756.

Sir:

I cant own that I Borrowed the Horse of Bigs, but I think I was present when Mr. Rich^{d} Peters did, and that John Pompshare had the Horse from Philadelphia to Easton, and from thence to fort Allen, where he got Deedious Kon to speake to me to let him have horse, I told him that the Horse was none of mine, I could not give him to any Body. *What is a Horse*, says Deedious to the Governor of Pensilvania, let me have him, and tell my Brother the Governor that you gave him to me. I told Deedious Kon that I would write in favour of Pompshare in order to get the Horse from the Governor, but Deedious hade the impudence to ask a Bill of Sell of me for the Horse, which I put off from Hour to Hour, till I was just going, and I was no ways inclined to give him any writing, but he Deediouse Kon called Witnesses that I had promised Pompshare the Horse If found again

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† See Col. Rec. Vol. VII., p. 346–383.

. Majesty hath there already, and how many such Vessels it is necessary to have built for gaining the Mastery of that Lake.

[illegible]

and Directions in the Execution of your Trust, and some calculated for this Occasion to which I refer you, and to the inclosed Papers Containing an Account of Governor Morris's Intelligence and Proceedings relating to the Shawonese Delawares and other Indians therein mentioned and of his Messages to the several Tribes of the Six Nations which last mentioned Papers will throw light upon the Service I propose now by directing you to proceed to those Castles.

You will let me know by the return of this Express whether you have received any other Commission than that from the late Major General Braddock Relative to the Care of the Indians and how far I may depend upon your Acting under the Inclosed Commission and proceeding on the Service, I now direct you to go upon that in Case you shall decline I may otherwise provide against his Majesty's Service being disappointed by that Means.

If the Advanced Season of the Year or your State of Health will not suffer you to go as far as the Onondaga's Castle You will then transact the Business by proper Messages to such of them as you cannot personally go to.

As the Effectual Execution of the Trust reposed in you will on many Accounts, require my having an Interview with you, as soon as the Business, I now direct you to do, will admit, I must desire you to let me see you at Boston this Winter some time before the Month of March at farthest.

I am
Sir
Your most humble Servant
W Shirley —

Copy of the Speech of his Excellency General Shirley to the Indians of the Six Nations.

(L.S.) The Speech of his Excellency Major General William Shirley General and Commander in Chief of all his Majesty's Forces in North America To the Sachems and Warriors of the Indians of the Six Nations

Brethren

The Great King of England your Father having committed to me the Command of all the Forces raised and to be raised upon the Continent of North America, and in a particular manner commanded me to protect your Country and the Lands which your Fore Fathers have conquered and are of Right your Territories against all Violence and Attempts of the French our

Common

general Good we support them till March after that they must work for their Sustenance.

Your Militia Law is very inconsistent with any Rules

Common Enemy and to cultivate a strict Friendship and Alliance between him and you, I take the first opportunity of communicating this to you by Major General Johnson, whom I have now Ordered to visit you and take care of your Interest.

Brethren Since I came to this place I have heard much news which concern you as well as all the English and therefore do now send General Johnson to you to speak my mind to you.

Brethren, Perhaps you think the Weather looks somewhat Cloudy the French are proud and have for some time past been very insolent, more so than is fit for you and us to bear, they threaten me but be not frighted, I am not so, they are but few, we are many, they are but a handful We we all take up the hatchet against them, it behoves you Brethren to be wise and to remain Stedfast to your Old friends the English; the Great King of England is determined not only to protect you as well as his Subjects in America but to Chastize the French for their repeated Insolencies.

Brethren The Governor of Pensilvania hath informed me, that he has sent a Message to you of great Importance by Scarroyada and Andrew Montour I hope you have heard them with Attention, and have considered well what they said.

Brethren The Indians called the Delawares and Shawonese who live in and near Pensilvania have for a long time past lived in friendship with the People of that Province, Maryland and Virginia, those People have always treated them as friends and Brothers and yet they have without any Provocation and without giving any Notice taken up the Hatchet against them and stuck their Tomahawks in them whilst they lay asleep in their Beds, not expecting any Harm from them; they have killed and Scalped Numbers, they burnt their Houses and Barns and have killed their Horses and Cattle.

Brethren, The People of Pensilvania were always a peaceable People, they did not love War, not because they were weak and not able to fight, they are strong and have great Numbers of Men; this Behaviour of the Delawares and Shawonese Indians, hath made them resolved to fight and they will have Revenge.

Brethren, The Indians the Delawares and Shawanese always lived under your Direction, they looked upon you as their Masters; and you looked upon them as Women who wore Petticoats they never dared to do any thing of Importance without your leave for they knew if they did you would Chastize them, yet those People have now dared to make War upon your Antient Friends.

Brethren

Majesty hath there already, and how many such Vessels it is necessary to have built for gaining the Mastery of that Lake.

Brethren

It behoves you to join heartily with the People of Pennsilvania in punishing those Indians, for unless you do, we can't but think you have given them leave to do what they have done and if they have not your leave yet it behoves you the more to punish them, if you don't, they will dare look you in the Face, they will think themselves as good Men as you, and you will lose the Name of being their Masters.

Brethren I must again desire you will join in Chastizing those Indians; that you will send some of your Warriors against them, that they may know you are still our Friends, that you are Men and that they are but Women.

Brethren of the Onondagas and Cayugas

When I saw some of your Chief Sachems and Warriors at Oswego, your Hearts and my Heart seemed to be one; you promised to be true friends to the English, and to join with us against our Enemies the French, and I promised to do all in my power to protect you against the French; you desired I would build a Fort in your Country, which I will do as soon as the Weather is fit for Men to work you also promised to send some of your Sachems to meet me next Spring at Oswego.

Brethren of the Oneidas

Some of your chief Sachems and Warriors met me in my Way from Oswego at the Great carrying place, I desired them to tell me whether your Nation would join heartily with us against the French, but they told me they could not give any Answer; till they had consulted the rest of your Sachems and Warriors you desired me to send you a Number of Men to build your Fort, which I understood was to be for you and the Tuskaroras: I sent you a Number of Men to build a Fort, but I have heard that they went away, since which I have sent more Men to you for that purpose, and I hope they have almost finished it.

Brethren of the Mohawks.

In my return from Oswego I had not time to stop at your Upper Castle at Connajoharie but I sent my Secretary and some of my Officers there, to Condole with you for the loss of your great Sachem Hendrick and other Warriors at Lake George and to wipe away your Tears, and enquire after your Health: I visited your lower Castle, where your Chief Sachems and Warriors there told me, that they and we were one that our Enemies were their Enemies and that when the Hatchet was lifted up against our Head, it was against their Head.

Brethren of the Six Nations.

It is now your time to resolve, whether you will join heartily with the English against theirs and your

Enemies

general Good We support them till March after that they must work for their Sustenance.

Your Militia Law is very in Consistent with any Rules

Enemies I told you before that the great King of England is determined to Chastize the French and all those who join with them, and for that purpoſe I am now raising a great army to go against them early in the Spring if you join heartily with us the Work will be easy Your Country will then remain in Peace to you, and the Neighbouring Nations will know that you are still able to Conquer them.

Copy of Governor Sharpe's Letter to Governor Morris—

Annapolis Jan.ry 24th 1756—

Sir

I return you thanks for forwarding to me by Expreſs the Packet that you was kind enough to bring from General Shirley to Philadelphia and for the Civilities I received at your hands during my stay in that City. Since my return hither I have receiv'd a letter from Governor Dinwiddie advising me that 130 of the Cherokees have been prevailed on to take up the Hatchet against the French, and that in Conjunction with some Companies of the Virginia Rangers they are gone to Attack one of the Shawonese Towns; he also informs that two Gentlemen of his Council who have been with a Considerable Present to the Catawbe and Cherokee Nations have made a League with them both and engaged them to send 1000 Warriors in the Spring to act in Conjunction with the Forces that may be employed in this part of the Continent against his Majesty's Enemies. I should be glad to hear what has been the Event of your Interview with the Indians you had appointed to meet, and also what Measures have been taken for the Protection of your Frontiers; at what Places the Commissioners have Ordered Forts to be built; what Number of Men they propose to Garrison them with, and whether they will furnish and support any Troops for carrying on another Expedition to the Westward as well as their Quota for the Expedition to Crown Point. Our Aſsembly meets the 23th of Next Month, when I shall lay before them the Plan of Operations that was concerted at New York. I flatter my self they will contribute something towards carrying it into Execution at the same time I shall recommend to them the building some Forts at proper places on our Frontiers whence Parties from the Garri-sons may be detached Occasionally to patrole between those that shall be raised on the Frontiers of your Province and such as shall be built in Virginia on Potowmack River

With the Greatest Regard

I am Sir, your most humble
and most Obed.t Servant
Hor.o Sharpe

Tatteweshund said

Brethren, we let you know, what Words we have heard from our Oncles the six Nations. They have told us, you have been Women formerly & not able to do any Bussiness, but now we put you in Mans Bussiness for, now we make a Man of you, that you can do Bussiness)

This Belt is a token that we 10 Nations stand in the middle between the French & English, & look about who inclines to make Peace, ~~&~~ who dos not incline to it, but ^will^ go on in that Confusion & flood of Darkness, him we will strike.

Brethren! this is the good Day, who inclines to make Peace, take hold of ~~this~~ Belt. Further I wish, that the spirit of William Penn may rise again in Pensylvania, & ~~[illegible]~~ the old friendships & Peace might be performed. Gave a Belt

than the Gov.^r^ said to Tatteweshund: I take hold of this Belt.

30. 7mo. the Gov.^r^ to ~~the~~ ^Indians by^ ~~[illegible]~~ Newcastle

Brethr

When I spoke to you ~~yesterday~~ I told you the People of Ph had ~~full~~ ~~[illegible]~~ my lands

I think it necessary to ~~[illegible]~~ a part of this [illegible] was given by [illegible] Peace [illegible]

what is their desire in [illegible] & [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible]

I hope you will

[illegible] we [illegible] [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] their [illegible]

~~[illegible] Conference~~ [illegible] they [illegible]

[illegible] a [illegible] [illegible] at this [illegible]

[illegible] so Gr.^t^ a deed in [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] Peace [illegible]

EXTRACT FROM COL. JOHNSON'S LATE TREATY, 1756.

Brother,

We must correct you a little; You desire us to write and live together, & draw all our allies near us; but we shall have no land left us either for ourselves or them, for your people when they buy a small piece of land of us, by stealing they make it large. We desire such things may not be done, & that your people may not be suffered to buy any more of our land, sometimes 'tis bought of two men, who are not the proper owners of it. The Land that reaches from Swegy to Schahaedawana, we beg may not be settled by Christians, but if any come there, they may be called away, that so we may have land left for ourselves & our Allies.

Gave a Large & Small Belt.

Conochguissa, the Oneyda Sachem, then rose up and said:

Brother,

You promised us you would keep this fire place clear of all Filth, & that no snake should come into the Council Room. That man sitting there, (pointing to Lydius,) is a devil, and has stole our Lands; he takes an Indian slyly by the Blanket, one at a time, and when they are drunk, puts money into their bosoms, & persuades them to sign Deeds for our lands upon the Susquehanna, which we will not ratify, nor suffer to be settled by any means. The Governor of Pensylvania bought a whole tract, & only paid for the half, & we desire you will let him know that we will not part with the other Half, but keep it. These things make us constantly uneasy in our minds, & we desire you will take care that we keep our lands for ourselves.

Gave a very large Belt.

Col. Johnson then told them that he had attentively heard what they had said, but as it was too late to give them an answer, he would make a reply to-morrow morning.

Brethren,

I am convinced that many frauds have been made use of in the purchasing of your lands, which I am very sorry for, But the King, your father, having heard of your Complaints, & ever mindful of your welfare, hath sent such order to the Gov^r^ of this Province as will prevent these Evil Doings for the future. And I don't doubt but he will punish those who have been guilty of these proceedings.

Gave a Belt.

Brethren,

I did promise I would keep this Fire place free from all filth, & I did desire that no Snake should come into this Council Room. As to Col. Lydius, if his coming here was such an offence to you, I am sorry for it; He came of his own accord, without any invitation from me. If Col. Lydius hath done as you represent, & which I am afraid is in a great measure true, I think he is very faulty, & that no body should attempt to settle lands upon such unfair pretences. I will endeavour all in my power that Justice may be done you in this affair.

As to those lands the Proprietaries of Pensylvania bought of you last year, it was done in a fair and open manner, with the consent of your whole Body then present, & I believe most of your Sachems now here, did agree to and were present at that Bargain, & tho' you then received but half the purchase money, you were told you might have the other half whenever you would call for it, with which you were satisfied. For you, therefore, to want to recall half of that purchase, for the whole of which you have given a deed, in so publick & so solemn a manner, is in my opinion, very unreasonable & unjust. If you expect Justice to be done you, you ought to be ready to do Justice yourselves, & believe me, my Brethren, that to be honest men, is the surest way to be happy & respected. I think you ought, & I would advise you to stand by the Bargain, & take the rest of your Purchase money when you want it. As to the Schahaedowana Lands, the Proprietarys will not attempt to settle it. But whenever you are inclined to sell it, you will remember you are engaged to sell it to them.

Gave a Belt.

Indorsed.

Extract from Col. Johnson's Treaty, Jan'y & Feb'y, 1756.

GOV. MORRIS TO GOV. DINWIDDIE, 1756.

Philada., 1st Feb'y, 1756.

Sir,

Yo^rs of ye 2^d Jan'y* I rec'd yesterday. I returned back last Wednesday from a Month's Tour I have been takeing into ye back parts of ye Prov'e, w^th a double view, to raise ye Spirits of ye People there, & encourage them to make a stand ag^t ye Indians, & build a Chain of Forts along our Frontier. And to hold ye proposed Treaty w^th ye Indians I had invited to meet me at Harris's Ferry, on ye Susquehannah.

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* See it, Col. Rec. Vol. VII, p. 30.

who live near the Minisink's on the River Delaware
a few days ago told their Uncles [the five Nations] that
they would not join with their Brethren against
the English but would live & die with the five

correct your Cousins & Stop their proceedings.

We expect something will be done by you immediately in Virtue of the Treaties subsisting between us. What you do must be done quickly, for they are even now destroying all before them

Here give a Black Belt

13 Novr. 1755

Onotiquâge 4th Jany. 1756—

Honoured Sir

This Evening Andrew Montour & Scarroyady arrived here and informs us, that they were sent by your Honour, to get Intelligence of the Dispositions of the Indians on the River Susquehannah — That they have the unhappiness, to find all the Delawares, who are settled at Wiomung, & at & about Tiaogoh in the French Interest that these [the Delawares] with a Party from Ohio, have lately done mischief on your frontiers that they have captivated 26 persons the most of which are women & Children: & that there are five English Captives now at Tiaogoh — But they inform us, that those, who are of the five Nations, Shawnese and Mohegans who are interspersed among them, design, early in the Spring, to leave the Delawares & remove into the Country of the five Nations; being determined to abide by them but perhaps it may be a satisfaction to be informed by Scarroyada himself — The following is a Speech which he desired me to pen, & transmit to your honour with all Speed—

He addresses himself to your honour & Mr Peters thus

Brethren

give the French the Dominion of the great of the whole

[illegible]

Brethren Onas & Oneratael

The Delawares, on Susquehannah, declare in plain terms, that they shall pay no Regard, to what shall be said, to disswade them from Hostilities against the English —— That they will not hear the greatest Sachem, in the Country of the Confederates That they are determined to fight the English; as long as there is a man left. And that when they have Conquered the English they will turn their Arms against those Indians who will not join with them Now.

I am arrived here, & now feel safe & easie, but tis with much difficulty that I have come thoro' the Settlements of the Delawares, I have but just escape wth life when I return I shall go by the way of Albany for their is no going back by the way that I came

You may expect to hear from us again, by the next Opportunity —— We design to go forward quite into the Country of the five Nations, and perhaps as there is soon to be a Meeting of the Confederates, we shall go as far as Onondago. We shall not return till we can bring you the best Intelligence of the Situation of affairs in these parts ————

I advise you lay still & not come against your Enemies this way till you have further Intelligence But you'l guard your Frontiers well and keep good Scouts out Constantly. You may rely upon it that none but Enemy Indians will come upon your Frontiers Those who designs to be at Peace, with the English will will either remove this way immediately, or keep at home —— Early in the Spring the Shawonese & Mohegans & all that abide by the five Nations will come this way ——

I would inform you that now I am arrived here at Onoh'quâge —— and my Brethren here inform me that our Nephews (the Delawares)

who live near the Minisink's on the River Delaware
a few days ago told their Uncles [the five Nations] that
they would not join with their Brethren against
the English but would live & die with the five
Nations —— This is all at present from
—————— Scarroyady

I write in great haste I ask your Honour Candour
I am Your Honours most
humble Servant
Gidn. Hawley

The Wampum Inclosed was present by Scarroyady when he Concluded his Speech. Tis much for the British Interest that Montour & Scarroyady came this way in the present conjuncture ——

P.S. There is here a very ingenious Gun Smith who has for more than a twelve month past worked at his trade here constantly Perhaps it might be well for the publick to encourage him to continue this business here — I would inform your Honour that the two families of white People who live here are Obliged to be at much Expence in feeding the Indians who ran away from Ohio & other parts to the Southward for fear of the French & their Indians — Perhaps if the Publick were sensible how much we are Obliged to expend in Acts of Kindness they would allow us some small Consideration — I am your Honour's &c

Gidn. Hawley

To the Honble Robert Hunter Morris Esqr Lieutenant
Govr &c of his Majesty's Province of Pennsylvania &c

This Morning Scarroyady desires me to inform your Honour that the Five Nations of Indians to treat with them at Onondaga & that if they will not repent of the Mischief they
have

That such Employment in Chief of the Kings [illegible]
General and that he or the Commander
for the time being give such farther Instruction to the Commissioners
collectively

7

have done in falling upon the English and make up the matter and be peaceable the five Nations will immediately cast them of — He says — they will speak but once to them — Montour informs me that if the Delawares had known their business to the five Nations Scarroyady & he had never come thro' their Settlements —

he says he should have given your honour intelligence of the Situation of affairs on this River, had it been practicable. But no friendly Indians dare Venture upon your frontiers for fear of being treated as Enemies —

I would give your Honour a Narritive of facts relating to the Delawares & of their Messages of the five Nations since the last week in October last, was I not in the utmost Confusion being upon the Wing of Boston expecting to set of this Morning —

As my business at present is here & as I have some Acquaintance with the Indians in these Parts and can use the Language of the five Nations pretty well. I may probably have it in my Power to Serve the Interest of your Province, which I shall be proud to do — I am Your honour's
most humble Servant
Gid. Hawley

January 5 1756

To the Honble R H Morris Esqr Gr

I would inform you that now I am arrived here at Onoh'quage

Honoured Sir,   Onohquage 4th January 1756.

This Evening Andrew Montour and Scarroyady arrived here, to inform Us that they were sent by your Honour to get Intelligence of the disposition of the Indians on the River Sasquehannah. That they have the unhappiness to find all the Delawares who are settled at Wioming, and at and about Tioagoh in the French Interest. that these (the Delawares) with a Party from Ohio, have lately done Mischief on your Frontiers. That they have captivated 26 Persons, the most of which are Women & Children; and that there are five English Captives now at Tioagoh. But they inform us, that those who are of the five Nations, Shawonese and Moheyans, who are interspersed among them, design early in the Spring, to leave the Delawares and move into the Country of the Five Nations; being determined to abide by them. But perhaps it may be a satisfaction to be inform'd by Scarroyady himself. The following is a Speech which he desired me to pen and transmit to your Honour & Mr. Peters thus

Brother Onas & Oneratact,

The Delawares on Sasquehannah declare, in plain Terms that they shall pay no regard to what shall be said to dissuade them from Hostilities against the English. That they will not hear the greatest Sachem in the Country of the Confederates. That they are determined to fight the English, as long as there is a Man left, that when they have conquered the English, they will turn their Arms against those Indians who will not join with them now.

I am arrived here and now feel safe and easy, but it is with much difficulty that I have come thro' the Settlement of the Delawares. I have but just escaped with life. When I return shall go by the way of Albany, for there is no going back by the way that I came. You may expect to hear from us again by the next opportunity. We design to go forward quite into the Country of the Five Nations; and perhaps as there is soon to be a Meeting of the Confederates we shall go as far as Onondago, We shall not return, 'til we can bring you the best Intelligence of the Situation of Affairs in these parts. I advise you to lay still and not come against your Enemies this way 'til you have further Intelligence. But you'll guard your Frontiers well and keep Scouts out constantly. You may rely upon it that none but Enemy Indians will come upon your Frontiers - Those who design to be at Peace with the English will either remove this way immediately or keep at Home - Early in the Spring the Shawanese and Mohegans and all that abide by the Five Nations will come this way.

I would inform you that now I am arrived here at Onohquagè and my Brethren here inform me that our Nephews, (the Delawares) who live near the Minisinks on the River Delaware, a few Days ago told their Uncles (the five Nations) that they would not join with their Brethren against the English but would live and die with the five Nations. - This is all at present.

Scarroyady.

I write in great haste and ask your Honors' Candor.

I am
Your Honour's
most humble Servant
Gid: Hawley.

The Wampum enclosed was
Present by Scarroyady when he
concluded his Speech.

'Tis much for the British Interest that Montour and Scarroyady came this way in the present Conjuncture.

There is here a very ingenious Gun Smith who has for more than a Twelve Month past worked at his Trade here constantly, perhaps it might be well for the Publick to encourage him to continue in his Business here. I would inform your Honour that the two Families of White People who live here are obliged to be at much Expence in feeding the Indians who run away from the Ohio and other parts to the Southward for fear of the French and their Indians - perhaps if the Publick were sensible how much we are obliged in Acts of kindness, they would allow us some small Consideration.

I am Your Honour's &c.
Gid: Hawley.

This

Official Correspondence,

This Morning Scarroyady desires me to inform your Honour that the Five Nations have lately called the Delawares to treat with them at Onondago, and that if they will not repent of the Mischiefs they have done in falling upon the English, and make up the Matter and be peaceable, the Five Nations will immediately cast them off - he says they will speak but once to them - Montour informs me that if the Delawares had known their Busineſs to the Five Nations, Scarroyady and he had never come thro' their Settlements - He says he should have given your Honour Intelligence of the Situation of Affairs on this River, had it been practicable. But no friendly Indians dare venture upon your Frontiers for fear of being treated as Enemies.

I would give your Honour a Narrative of Facts relating to the Delawares and of their Meſsages to the five Nations since the last Week in October last was I not in the utmost confusion, being upon the wing to Boston, expecting to set off this Morning - As my Busineſs at present is here, and as I have some acquaintance with the Indians in these parts and can use the Language of the five Nations pretty well, I may poſsibly have it in my power to serve the Interest of your Province, which I shall be proud to do. I am

Your Honour's

Jan.ry 5th 1756.

most humble Servant

Gid: Hawley.

To the Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esq.r
Lieutenant Governor of His Majesty's Province of
Pennsylvania &c.

No. 6. ✓

Letter of Scarroyady wrote by Mr. Gideon Hawley Missionary among the Indians at Oneoquaga 4th. Jan.y 1756.

True Copy
Examin'd & compar'd with those sent to, and receiv'd from the Board of Trade

J. Aiskell

Governor Morris's Instructions to Scarroyady & Andrew Montour – Decr. 1755.

with Lettr. of Scarroyady wrote by Mr. Gideon Hawley Mission.y among the Indians at Oneoquaga Jan.y 4th 1756

general Good We support them till March after that they must work for their Sustenance.

A Militia Law is very inconsistent with any Rules

Troops will be necessary for the effectually Recovering and Securing his Majesty's Rights and Dominions upon this Continent—

Wm. Shirly
Chas. Hardy
Horo. Sharp
Robt. H. Morris

Thos. Dunbar
Peter Schuyler
Chas. Craven
John St. Clair
Jas. Kinneer
John Rutherforde

a true Copy
Wm. Alexander Secy.

General Shirley's proposals for Measures to be taken by the Western Governments from Pensilvania to South Carolina both inclusive—

By His Excellency Major General William Shirley General and Commander in Chief of his Majesty's Forces in North America &c. —

Upon taking into his Consideration the very great Importance of the numerous Nations of Indians in Alliance with his Majesty's Southern Colonies. The Advantages that will accrue to the English in General from their Friendship, and the particular Necessity there is at this Time, to enter into a Solemn Treaty with them in order not only to secure them to the British Interest, so far as to prevent them from joining in the designs of the French, but to engage them to assist his Majesty's Subjects in defending their Frontiers and annoying their Enemies.

His proposed

1st. That a Treaty be held with the several Tribes of Indians in alliance with his Majesty's Southern Colonies — at such time and place, as shall be agreed on between the Governments of South and North Carolina, and notified by them to the General and to the other Western Colonies as far North as Pensilvania.

2dly. That one or more Commissioners should be appointed by each of the Western Provinces from South Carolina to Pensilvania both inclusive to carry on that Treaty, in behalf of his Majesty, and of those Colonies, to be particularly instructed by their respective Governments for that Purpose.

3dly. That such Instructions be without delay transmitted to the General and that he or the Commander in Chief of the King's Forces for the time being give such farther Instructions to the Commissioners collectively or separately as he shall think neceſsary for his Majesty's Service.

4. That the Governments of Virginia and the two Carolinas as soon as possible dispatch Meſsengers to those Southern Tribes, inviting them to a General Treaty in his Majesty's Name, and in the names of all the said Western Provinces — and that the time and place agreed on for such Treaty be particularly mentioned in such Invitation.

5. That at such appointed place, Provision be made for the Reception and Entertainment of the Indians that may attend the Treaty, by the Province wherein such place is, to be afterwards reimbursed in proportion by the other Colonies.

6. That Money be provided by the said Western Provinces for defraying the Expence of the Treaty, and for providing a proper Aſsortment of Goods to be given in Presents to the Indians that shall attend, and sent into their Countries to be distributed among those that cannot personally Aſsist at the Treaty.

7thly That the Commiſsioners be instructed to engage these Tribes to Aſsist the English in the present Dispute, and to take up the Hatchet against the French and their Indians and that they be enabled to promise English pay and Provisions, Arms, Ammunition and Indian Cloathing to such of their Warriors as shall join his Majesty's Forces, or the Troops in the Service of any of the said Western Provinces — And as to such of them as shall incline to Attack the French upon the Ohio, or any of the Indians in their Alliance to promise them certain Rewards for every Prisoner or Scalp they shall bring in, and to appoint certain places to which such Scalps or Prisoners shall be brought.

8. That proper Persons be appointed by the Commiſsioners to return with the Indians from the Treaty into their own Country, if neceſsary to Conduct the Warriors, to such places as shall be appointed for their Rendezvous, where Stores of Provisions Arms and Ammunition should be provided for their Use.

8

Proportio

who live

Proportions of the 10,000 Men proposed to be raised for the Crown Point Expedition according to the Plan settled by Commissioners at Albany Viz.

Maryland	1000
Virginia	1750
Pensilvania	1500
New Jerseys	750
New York	1000
Rhode Island	500
Connecticut	1250
New Hampshire	500
Massachusets	1750
	10,000

Copy of General Shirley's Letter to Major General Johnson Dated 7th Decemr. 1755. New York

Sir! You already know, I have the Honor to be appointed Commander in Chief of all his Majestys Forces in North America with the same Powers as the late Major General Braddock had the Command.

Inclosed is the Eighth Article of his Majestys Instruction to me concerning Indian Affairs which is a Copy of that and the only Instruction which General Braddock had, Relating to that matter. You will find it Refers to some Appointment of you to the Service therein mentioned, Supposed to be made by his Majesty, before General Braddock left England; If you have received such a Commission. You will Act in Pursuance of it, According to the Instruction you may have received with it, And such farther Instructions as I do now, or shall hereafter send you, In Case you have received no such Commission, you will then Act in Pursuance of the Commission which I send you herewith by Virtue of the Powers given me, by his Majesty and founded upon the words and intents of his Royal Instructions; Looking upon the Indians called there the Northern Indians to be intended of those of the Six Nations and whatever Allies they may have to the Northward.

Inclosed are general Instructions for your Guidance

and

Sketch of a System for the management of Indian Affairs in North America under one General direction.

For the more distinct treating of this matter it may be per to consider the Indians, to be comprehended in the proposd ystem, as divided into four Districts, Viz.t The Indians at first lled the five Nations, now the Six Nations, which Inhabit along outh side of the Mohawk's River, the Oneida Lake, the River ondago, and the Lake Ontario; the Indians which Inhabit along orth side of the Lakes Ontario and Erie and on Lake Huron &c. Indians, which Inhabit the Rivers Delaware, Susquehanna, hio &c. as far as Georgia; and the Indians, which Inhabit to the stward of New England, and in the Service of Nova Scotia as r as the Southern Bank of the River St. Lawrence.

The principal Articles, in which the proper management of e Indians, in order to fix them in the English Interest and a pendence upon the Crown of Great Britain consists are, 1st the nding their Old Men, Women and Children protection against French and their Indians, whilst their Warriors were absent om them; 2dly a due Regulation of the Trade with them, 3dly a gulation of the Sale of their Lands, and preventing Incroachments eing made upon their Hunting Grounds; 4thly The expelling French Missionaries from among them, and Introducing English Protestant inisters in their Room; 5thly the Convening them in General Councils ong themselves Annually or oftner; 6thly the Establishing General Interviews between the Indians and the Kings Governours or ommissioners appointed by them at certain times, and making them Publick and private presents.

As to the 1st Article the building and maintaining small Forts nd Garrisons in their Countries, with their Consent, is necessary; esides the Protection, this will afford to their Families, it will give us a constant inspection over them, and, if discreet Officers are posted in the Forts, will greatly Increase their Attachment to the English.

Great progreſs hath been lately made in this point in the Country of the Six Nations: At the desire of the two Castles of the Mohawks, a Fort was built at each of them by the Government of New York the last Summer, and Garrisons posted there during the Campaigne; The Onondago Indians requested of me at Oswego to build them a Fort near their Castle the next Spring; The Oneida Indians upon my proposal of it to them requested me, at the great carrying Place, in my return their Country, to do the same thing as soon as poſsible, and send them some Soldiers for their protection; and upon my Arrival at Albany the Tuscarora Indians sent me a Meſsage to the same Effect; all which I accordingly promised them, and it seems highly probable that the Cayuga and Seneca Indians will soon follow their Examples.

As to the Second Article For the due Regulation of the Indian Trade so as to make it more beneficial to them than the French can do, which (as it is the most Interesting point with them, and universally striking in all their Nations) is the most eſsential Article to be taken care of, I would recommend the Scheme establish in the Province of the Maſsachusets Bay: That Government hath Erected Truck Houses within their Several Forts near the head Quarters of all the Neighbouring Tribes of Indians dependent upo it, which are supply'd at those Houses with such goods as they want, Arms, Ammunition and other Indian neceſsary's in exchange for their Furrs and Pelleterie; these goods are purchased with the Publick money at the best hand, by the Commiſsary General of Stores for the Province, an Officer Annually Chosen by the Aſsembly with the consent and appointment of the

Governor

Governour, and distributed in every Truck House by him, to be sold by the truck Master there (an Officer chosen and appointed in like manner) at the prime Cost, with the Addition of so much per Cent as will pay the Expence of transporting the trade from Boston to the Truck Houses; and to prevent any Imposition upon the Indians in this Trade, the rates at which the Pelleterie is to be taken from them in truck for the English goods, are stated by the government, and tables of the Several prices, which the Indians are to pay for each species of goods sold to them, together with the Rates, which they are to be allowed for every Species of their Pelleterie, distinguishing the Several prices of their Spring and Fall Skins, and to be hung upon the truck House, and made known to the Indians; The truck Master is Sworn to the due Execution of his Trust; allowed a Salary by the Government, and forbid to trade with them on his own or any other private Account; and all private Trade with the Indians, particularly the Sale of Rum, is prohibited under a penalty by a Law of the Province.

This method for supplying the Indians, who may be properly said to be dependent upon the English, with Goods, is not practiced, as far as I can learn, in any other Government besides the Maſsachusets Bay: As to the Province of Nova Scotia, it is not to be expected, that it should have been done within that as yet: I believe it is not practiced in the Southern and Western Governments; and I am sure it is not in the Government of New York, but the Introducing of this method into the English Governments which Trade with the Indians, seems not difficult to be effected.

The opening and Establishing a Trade with the Numerous Nations of Northern and Southern Indians Inhabiting the North side of the Lake Ontario, and as far Westward, as the Lakes Erie, the Detroit, and Lake Huron &c. which is now wholly Engroſsed by the French, and is the Chief Connexion between them, and the Indians, may be attended with greater difficulty, but is I hope very practicable.

This I apprehend is to be done, at least to be begun, only at Oswego, as that is the only trading House in his Majesty's Colonies, which by its Situation will admit of such a Trade's being carried o at it with those Indians: It was with this view that Mr. Burnet in the Year   being then Governour of New York, upon finding the French wholly in possession of that Trade, and foreseeing the many Evils, which the English Colonies have long Experienced from the Attachment of those Indians to them on that Account first built Fort Oswego: but as he did not remain long after in his Government, his good intent hath been since wholly defeated by the Government of New York's having Burthened the Trade carried on with the before mentioned Northern and Western Indian at Oswego, whilst a Free Trade with the French Indians hath been left open at Albany, who have been carriers and Factors for the French, and supplyed them thro' that Channel with English Stroads and other goods necessary to Indians; by which means the French have furnished those Nations with English Woolens at as Cheap or Cheaper rates, at their Trading Houses in Canada and upon the great Lakes and Rivers, than the Indians could purchase them at Oswego itself.

To this pernicious Trade, carried on from Albany, in which the French have Chiefly made use of the Cagnawaga Indians, who have been considerable gainers by it, it is the opinion of the best Judges here, must be the continuance of those Indians in their defection from the English to the French; Several — Grievances flowing from this trade to the Neighbouring Colonies in time of a General Warr with the French might likewise be pointed out; but that is beside my present purpose what I would at present observe is that a prohibition of the Trade with the French carried on from Albany; and opening a free trade at Oswego with the Indians of the far Nations, would remedy these mischiefs, and lay a foundation not only for establishing a Trade with them, and bringing them into an lliance with the English, but likewise of reclaiming the Cagnawar gas, the most powerfull Tribe of Indians in Canada, to their Antient Friendship with them.

As I look upon the opening of this Trade at Oswego, to be an object of the greatest importance to his Majesty's Service and the welfare of the Colonies, I used my utmost Endeavours during my stay there, to engage the Indians of the Northern and Western Nations by meſsages to them to meet me there next Spring, in order to consult with me and their Brethren of the Six Nations (most of whom there promised to meet me) upon opening a trade and Establishing a Friendship between them, and the English: The succeſs of my meſsages will appear by the Inclosed Extract of a Letter from Lieutenent Colonel Mercer the Commanding Officer at Oswego to my Secretary: and I shall desire Sir Charles Hardy to recommend it to his Aſsembly to provide a Quantity of Goods proper for Indian Trade to be sent to Oswego, in time for their meeting me there, and to be sold to them at the prime Cost free of the present duty as also to furnish me with some presents for them.

If this proposed meeting of the Indians at Oswego should take effect, and measures can be concerted there to Establish a Trade with the Northern and Western Indians, and an Annual meeting and Council between them and the Six Nations, I cannot but hope that it will contribute much to unite and fix them all in the English Interest.

Sketch of a System for
the Management of Indian
Affairs in North America
under one general Direction.

Recd with Govr Shirley's Lettr
dated ye 6 of Janry 1756.
at New York.

Recd March ~~12~~ th }
Read —— 11 } 1756.

Hh; 68.

KINSLEY.
5477

A

TREATY

Between the Government of *New-Jerſey*,

AND THE

INDIANS,

Inhabiting the ſeveral Parts of ſaid Province,

Held at

CROSWICKS,

In the County of

BURLINGTON

On *Thurſday* and *Friday* the *eighth* and *ninth* Day of *January*, 1756.

PHILADELPHIA:
Printed by WILLIAM BRADFORD, Printer to the Province of *New-Jerſey*.

A
TREATY
between the Government of *New-Jerſey*,
AND THE
INDIANS.

Thurſday the *eighth* Day of *January*, 1756.

THE Commiſſioners and the following *Indians* being met.

The Names of the *Indians*.

Cranberry *Indians*, who paſs
by the *Engliſh* Names.
Thomas Store,
Stephen Calvin,
John Pumſhire,
Jo. Mikty,
Thomas Kecahela,
Iſaac Still,
William Totaney,
Oliver,
Totamy,
Sam. Goſling, &c. In all 27 Men,
ſundry Women and Children.

Pompton *Indians*.
John Cooper,
Pamaatock,
Cachcow,
Toung Cawhow,
John Janaway,
Cobus Jeroliman,
Abram Shattaw,
Wiſelſhelabow, &c.
In all 12 Men.

Croſwick *Indians*,
Quiſh,
Loulax,
Andrew,
Taſhee,
Teach,
Pombolus,
Shockhicman,
Cuſhee, &c.
In all 16 Men, ſundry Women and
Children.

Southern Jerſey *Indians*,
John Palmer,
Peter Tooley,
Gabriel Mytop,
Wollis,
Tom Gale,
In all 23 Men, beſides Women and Childen.

The first & Second Conference held with Teedyuscung ~~the~~ in July & November 1756 are not to be mett with being out of print otherwise they would have been bound up here

In these two Conferences Teedyuscung on behalf of the Delaware & Shawanees settled on ye River Susquahanna & some other small Nations of Indians declared their sincere Intentions of making Peace with their Brethren the English: at the same time letting them know, that the Blow which they had struck that is the Blood which they had ~~chiefly~~ spilt was done by the Persuasion of the French, but that it had fell the harder because of the Abuse they apprehended they had received from the English on account of their Lands & on several other respects Teedyuscung farther assured our Governmt that for the time to come the Indians under his Influence would refrain from doing any farther damage to the English; but that he could not be accountable for the mischeif which might be done by those Delaware & Shawanees who were settled near Fort Duquesne as they were still under the Influence of the French, but that he would do all in his Power to persuade

them

persuade them to join with him in making a perpetual Peace with us, and that he would also do all in his Power to cause the other Indian Nations far & near to hear the cry of Peace & join with him and us in the Chain of Friendship.

A Commiſſion from his Excellency JONATHAN BELCHER, *Eſq; Captain General and Grvernor in Chief, in and over the Province of* Nova-Cæſarea *or* New-Jerſey, *and Territories thereon depending in* America, *Chancellor and Vice Admiral in the ſame*, &c. was publiſhed, impowering the Honourable *Richard Salter*, *Lewis Morris Aſhfield*, *Charles Read*, *Robert Lawrence*, *Samuel Smith*, *Barzilla Newbold*, and *Joſeph Yard*, Eſqrs; or any three or more of them, to treat with the *Indians* of the Colony of *New-Jerſey*, and to agree upon ſuch Things, as they ſhould eſteem conducive to the Peace and Welfare of the Colony.

Jacob Hewlings, Eſq; and *Stephen Calvin*, Interpretors attended, after which the Commiſſioners ſpoke to the *Indians* as follows.

Brethren,

WE are glad to ſee you here in Health, and hope thoſe you have left behind you in your Towns are in Health alſo.

The Reaſon of our meeting you at this Time, is, that we might have an opportunity of talking freely with each other as *Brethren* ought to do.

We are appointed by the Government, to give you the ſtrongeſt aſſurance of the Affection your *Brethren* of this Colony, have and will always retain for our *Brethren* the *Indians*.

If therefore any Thing you know of, that may on either ſide deſtroy the good Agreement that has continued for near *one Hundred Years*, between your Fathers and ours, you will now have an Opportunity of mentioning it. And we hope you will do it in ſuch a manner as that nothing may hereafter remain to give us or you any Occaſion of Uneaſineſs, therefore we hope you will open your Minds freely.

We grieve for the Sufferings of our *Brethren* in *Pennſylvania*, who have ſuffered much by *Indians* miſled by bad and wicked Peoples Advice, but we hope an end will be ſoon put to their Murdering your Friends and ours, and beleive the *Indians* will by the trouble they will bring themſelves into by hearkening to this wicked Advice, be made to repent of their bad Actions.

We hope none of our *Friends* and *Brethren* of this Colony are joined with the Wicked *Indians* who have been deſtroying the People of *Pennſylvania*.

And expect you will let us know all you have heard of the Intentions of the *Indians*, and if any of the Enemy *Indians*, or any ſtrange *Indians* ſhould come among you, to put evil and falſe Things into your Heads, you will do well not to believe them, and that you will deliver them to us, as dangerous to our Peace and yours.

As we have heard ſome of the Enemy *Indians* have been in the upper Parts of this Province, and Murdered one Man, and wounded another, this and the Murders on the other ſide of the River, has made our People who live in the upper Parts of this Colony ſo Angry, that it is become dangerous to any *Indians* to go there, as they will not in the hurry know Friends from Enemies. Therefore we would have you ſeriouſly conſider with yourſelves, that it will be neceſſary for you to contrive ſome Bounds for your own Security, where you may be ſafe, and our People eaſy with it. And as you are our *Brethren*, we would have your Advice in this Matter, and if you have any requeſt to make for your own eaſe and both our Security's, you will do well to let us know it, and we ſhall give it due Conſideration.

Then the *Indians* withdrew.

Friday Morning, *January* the 9th 1756.

The Commiſſioners met.

The *Indians* came into Council, and having appointed *Ohiockechoque*, to ſpeak for them; he delivered in their Names the following Anſwer.

Dear *Brethren*,

SOME of our old Men can remember when the *Engliſh* were weak and few, and the *Indians* ſtrong and many. We then nurſed them up in our Boſoms and treated them as Friends.

We are glad our Friendſhip hath continned ſo long, and hope it will always endure.

Since our Fathers have ſold ſo large a Part of their Lands to the *Engliſh*, we find it much more difficult to maintain ourſelves and Families by Hunting, which is at leaſt one half our Support.

But a worſe evil than that has come to us, which is the Uſe of ſtrong Liquor, to which the *Indians* are too much addicted, and by which they are made Weak, Idle, and Quarrelſome, and for ſtrong Drink often ſell thoſe Skins, and other Things, which would provide themſelves and Families with Cloaths and Bread, and for this ſome of the *Engliſh* are too much to blame.

We beg you will take care to put a Stop to this wicked practiſe, which tho' it may offend ſome of our fooliſh People at firſt, yet it will at laſt be beſt liked, and be more for the Health of Soul and Body.

The bringing in the bleſſed Goſpel, we eſteem the greateſt advantage we have received by the *Engliſh* coming among us, and we truſt it hath been a means in the Hand of GOD to reform the Minds and Manners of a Number of us, and we prefer the Enjoyment of it and living with our *Brethren* the *Engliſh* even to Life itſelf. It gives us a real concern, that any of our Acquaintance are joined with the *French* and their *Indians*. The Reaſon of their going to them, we beleive was, that they were ſeduced by Lies and Falſity's, becauſe the ſame Methods were uſed with us, but without effect. As Times of great Diſtreſs are come on us, as well as you, we are willing to agree as *Brethren*, upon any Methods for our mutual Peace and Security.

We propoſe the following, which we hope may be effectual.

We who live on this ſide *Raritan* River, will not on any occaſion, go to the Northward of *Raritan* River at *Brunswick*, and of the great Poſt Road that leads from *Trenton* to *Brunſwick*, except in thoſe Town ſpots, but confine ourſelves between the ſaid Poſt Road and *Delaware* River, to the Sea Shores of this Province, while the War continues, in which Bounds we hope we ſhall always have the free Liberty of Hunting, and beg that good care may be taken, that no Traps ſhall be ſett there, which is of late very frequent and is very dangerous both to you and us.

If any of our Young Men go to War with you, we hope you will put them upon the ſame footing with the *Engliſh*, and that when our Married Men go to War, you will make ſome Proviſion for their Families.

As ſeveral of us are obliged to leave our Habitations in this time of general Diſtreſs, we pray that ſome Releif may be provided for ſuch. As it is the Misfortune of ſome of us to be in Debt, and we, for the publick Peace, are willing to deprive ourſelves of ſeveral advantages we formerly enjoy'd, we pray that care may be taken that our Creditors may not be two preſſing, and we promiſe as ſoon as we can, we will honeſtly pay our juſt Debts. We pray that all abuſive Words and Actions, which deſtroy Love, may be puniſhed in both *Indians* and *Engliſh*. We think we have ſtill ſome Peices of Land, for which we have received no Conſideration, if it ſhould prove ſo, and we could get the Money for them, we hope we ſhould be able, with ſome Aſſiſtance from our *Brethren* the *Engliſh*,

gliſh, to purchaſe a Peice of Land ſufficient for us all to ſettle together, and have the Goſpel among us, which is our great deſire.

And we *Pompton Indians*, and others, living beyond *Rariton*, will confine ourſelves within a Line to be drawn from that Part of the Sound between *Staten Iſland* and the Main, which is neareſt to *John Jolines*, to go the neareſt Courſe to the ſaid *John Jolines* Houſe, and ſtraight three Miles further into the Woods, and ſo by a Line to be drawn thro' the Woods, at three Miles diſtance, back from the great Road that leads from *John Jolines* to *Elizabeth-Town*, *Newark*, *Wezel*, and *John Jerolimans* Mill, near the Falls of *Paſſaic*, and from the ſaid Falls near *Jerolimans* Mill to the Fork, and then to *Pompton*, and then on the neareſt ſtraight Line thro' *Bergen* County, to the *Jerſey* Line on the Shore of the North River, or *Hudſons* River, and ſo by the Waters to were it began on the Sound.

We have to complain to our *Brethren*, that ill minded Perſons are apt to take Advantage of the *Indians* when they are Drunk, and buy their Lands for a trifle, and often from the *Indians* who does not own it. And we pray our *Brethren*, that for the future no *Indian* Deed or Leaſe may be allowed to be good, but what is made and Signed before the Governor, or two of his Council, who are to have a Certificate from ſix *Indians*, that the *Indian* who ſells the Land, is Owner of it, under the Hand of ſome Magiſtrate, who ſees the ſix *Indians* Sign it, and the Deed to have it wrote on the back, and ſigned by the Governor, or two of his Council, that they ſaw the Certificate of the ſix *Indians*, Signed by the Juſtice, and that the *Indian* who ſells the Land, underſtood the Deed, and had a reaſonable Price as common for it.

As ſome bad People have got a long Leaſe from a Drunken *Indian* for the *Indian* Lands at *Wepink*, and for which they pay moſtly, or all in ſtrong Drink, we beg that they may be removed from that Land, and we hope care will be taken that no looſe People ſettle on our Lands, without buying them.

We heartily promiſe our *Brethren*, that if any ſtrange *Indians* ſhall come among us, we will immediately give Notice thereof to the next Juſtice or Captain, that they may be ſatisfied for what end they come: And if any *Indian* ſhould attempt to come among us, to draw us back from our *Brethren* the *Engliſh*, we will immediately ſecure them, and deliver them to our *Brethren*. And as this is our fixed Reſolution, which we deſire may be made publick, we hope our *Brethren* will not give Credit to reports of ſtrange *Indians* being among us, when ſuch Stories are told by ill minded People.

And if any of our own People ſhould be unruly or abuſive, we will deliver them up to the *Engliſh* to be puniſhed.

The Commiſſioners then ſpoke to them as follows.

Brethren,

WE have here three Men and ſome Women and Children, in all Seventeen, which were taken in the upper Parts of the Province, where they have lived ſome Years, and ſent down to *Trenton* Gaol, for both theirs and our own Security, from whence they have been eſcorted here, and are now in the Guard Houſe, we ſhall Order them to be delivered to you, to be examined, and if after due Care and Conſideration of this Matter, you think you can ſafely take them among you, and Anſwer for their Good Behaviour, we will ſhew the Confidence we have in you our *Brethren*, by releaſing them to you; but if you ſuſpect them, you muſt deliver them back to the Guard. There ſtill remains in Gaol at *Trenton*, one *Phillip* an *Indian*, whoſe conduct has given us great reaſon to ſuſpect him, and whoſe Family is at *Wiomen*, and we ſhall detain him there till ſomething more appears in his favour. We ſhall wait your Anſwer till the Afternoon.

Friday Afternoon.

The Commiſſioners and *Indians* being met.

The Commiſſioners ſpoke to them as follow.

Brethren,

WE acknowledge the Kindneſs your Foreſathers have ſhewn to ours, and we ſhall always Act kindly to you, as we hope you will always deſerve it, as long as the Waters run down *Delaware*.

We are glad to find you acknowledge that your Fathers have ſold the Land we now poſſeſs to our Anceſtors, and we hope you have received Advantages by the riſing of the Price of your Skins, and Furs, and buying what you wanted at a reaſonable Rate, equal to the Loſs you have ſuffered by the ſcarcity of Deer and other Game.

We are pleaſed to hear that you are ſenſible of the Evils that ariſe by the too great habit of drinking ſpirituous Liquors among the *Indians*, and we ſhall lay that Matter before the Legiſlature of this Province, and ſhall endeavour to get a Proviſion made againſt that Evil.

It is agreeable to us, to hear that you ſo much Value the Bleſſed Goſpel, and that it has amended the Lives of ſo many of you, and the more you practice the Precepts of it, the better it will be for you.

We are glad that the Lies and Falſities of your and our Enemies, have not been able to draw you off from us, your *Brethren*, for your true Intereſt is faſt bound to ours.

As to the Bounds you have propoſed for yourſelves, we agree with you as to them, and ſhall take care that you ſhall be ſecure in them.

We hope none of our *Brethren* will diſtreſs you, unreaſonably, on Account of any Debts you owe them. And we recommend it to you to be Frugal and Induſtrious till you can pay them.

We will lay it before the Legiſlature, to provide againſt your being deceived or defrauded in any Bargains, Grants or Leaſes of Land, that you may make hereafter.

As to your Lands at *Wepink*, we ſhall make a Report about it, and you may depend upon ample Juſtice being done to you.

We receive kindly the hearty Declarations you make to us, that you will give immediate Notice to the Officers of Government, when any ſtrange *Indians* come among you, and that you will ſecure ſuch as are your and our Enemies. Let this lay deep in your Hearts, and your fulfilling it punctually, will give us ſure Proofs that you are our hearty *Brethren*.

We will make theſe your Intentions publick, and make no doubt but this Declaration, which we believe comes from your Hearts, will make your *Brethren* Love and Eſteem you, and make them unwilling to beleive any falſe Reports to your diſadvantage.

All manner of rude and bad behaviour of the *Engliſh* and *Indians* to each other ſhall meet with proper Diſcouragement.

As ſome of our *Brethren*, have ſuſtained Loſſes by Attachment and Love to their *Brethren* the *Engliſh*, We are willing to aſſiſt ſuch of them as have left their Places of abode in their preſent Neceſſity, and ſhall lay the Affair before the Legiſlature for their Conſideration.

As to ſuch of our *Brethren* the *Indians*, as will go out to War with our People, which we hope they will chearfully do, when there is occaſion, they will always be put upon the ſame footing with their *Brethren* the *Engliſh*, as they have been heretofore.

Then the *Indians* by *Ohiockchogue* return'd the following Anſwer, to what the Commiſſioners delivered to them this Morning.

Dear Brethren,

WE have conſidered what you ſaid to us reſpecting the *Indians* who were bro't from the back Parts of the Province. We have ſtrictly examined them, and according to the beſt Judgment we are able to frame, we verily believe they had no bad deſigns againſt the *Engliſh*; but conſidering the deceitfulneſs of Man's Heart, we dare not engage for any but ourſelves, we would be Willing to take them to our Town at *Cranberry*, and do our utmoſt to Watch over them, but the Fears and Jealouſies of our *Engliſh* Neighbours, are ſo great, that (as we are informed) it would not be for their or our ſafety to have them among us, and therefore do not chooſe to have any Connections with them, at leaſt for the preſent.

The Commiſſioners afterwards enquired of the *Indians*, if they had the ſame Objections to the taking them to any of their other Towns, and informed them, that the Commiſſioners would make allowance of ſome *Indian* Corn towards their ſupport this Winter, as they were removed from their own Habitations. Upon which *Quiſh* and the Chiefs of the *Indian* Town in the Branches of *Croſwicks*, agreed, as nothing appeared againſt theſe *Indians*, but that they were brought from their Habitation for their own Security, and the Peace of the upper Inhabitants, and that they could not return there again as being out of the Bounds the *Indians* had preſcribed to themſelves, that they would take them home, uſe them as *Brethren*, and have a careful Eye over them.

And the *Indian* Priſoners promiſſed to keep with the *Croſwick Indians*, and to be have orderly.

And they were delivered to them, whoſe Names were *Abraham Lewis*, *John Price*, *John Phillip*, and Twelve Women and Children.

And the Commiſſioners informed them, that they would Order ſome Corn for the relief of thoſe who have ſuffered by their Love to us, and by being drove from their Habitations.

And the Treaty broke up, and the *Indians* next Day went in an orderly Manner to their Towns.

What follows is added by Order of the Commiſſioners.

IT appeared to the Commiſſioners in the Courſe of this Treaty, that the *Indians* of *Suſquehannah*, have for three or four Years paſt, uſed many Endeavours to carry of to *Suſquehannah* all the *Indians* from this Province, and have brought Belts of Wampom, in the Name of the *Mohocks*, to Order them to remove, tho' the *Indians* never beleived them to have been ſent by the *Mohowks*, and have refuſed to leave us.

The Commiſſioners are convinced of the Sincerity of the *Indians* of this Province, and recommend it to the Inhabitants to uſe them kindly, to be careful not to ſupply them with ſtrong Drink, whereby many diſorders may be prevented.

They alſo requeſt the Inhabitants not to uſe aggravating Language to the *Indians*, whereby rude and threatning Expreſſions may be drawn from them in their Drink, and thoſe improved into Tales to alarm weak, People and raiſe ill Blood between the Inhabitants of the Colony and the *Indians*, which ought to be ſuppreſſed by all Means.

They recommend it to the Inhabitants to conſider whether any Thing but their Love and Friendſhip to us, could have prevented their being new among our Enemies, and for this token of their Affection for us, they are intitled to our Friendſhip.

As the ſpreading of reports, without a good Foundation, can only ſerve to give the Inhabitants uneaſineſs, they requeſt them carefully to ſuppreſs all Idle Stories, as they will tend to deſtroy their own Quiet and Repoſe.

The H. to be washed Twice a Week beginning at Daylight [ ]
parlours, & proceed^{g} to the Bed Cham^{rs} after the Family [ ]
The Laundry Maid beside the Family Linnen is to see that [ ]
in readiness, a proper set of Table Linnen, Towels [ ]
&ca

COUNCIL MINUTES

Copy[1]

At a Council held at the City of Annapolis on Saturday the 10th day of January in the fifth year of his Lordships Dominion Annoq̃ue Domini 1756.

Present as Yesterday

His Excellency is Pleased to lay before this Board the following Extract

Extract from the Record of the Proceedings of the Honourable William Johnson Esq^{r} with the Confederate Nations of Indians at the publick Meeting at Mount Johnson in June and July 1755.

Brother

We have taken into Our Confederacy our Children the Schanadarighroones and they are desirous you will look upon them as your Brethren, there are many of them who at Present live in Maryland and want to come and live near to Us, that both our Strength and theirs may be increased. We have Sent for them by Belts of Wampum, but they are not effectual, for there are three Colonels in Maryland near whose houses they live who in conjunction with three Chief Men amongst those Indians who will not let them Come away. We desire you will interpose & write to those Persons to let them come away

Give a String

They named the three Colonels Viz^{t} Col Scarborough Col Henry and Col Hooper the three Chiefs they also Named Viz^{t}

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[1] Printed in *Archives of Maryland*, 31:100–101.

Jemikakonick in Locust Neck Lame Sam in D° and Geeko in Pocomoke

A True Copy from the original Records Extracted by me

PETER WRAXALL Sec^{ry} &c for Ind^{n} Affairs

12th Janry. 1756.

Sir

In compliance with your Request I will herein give you the Indian Intelligence I had from Mr George Croghan: he told me that when a Party of the Delawares and Shawonese from Ohio had scalped, and taken prisoners several of the Inhabitants of Pattersons Creek, and afterwards some of that Party having destroyed the great Cove: he concluded that the French had stirred them up against us, in order to drive off the back Settlers, so as to make it the more difficult for us to supply an Army in a future expedition against Fort du Quesne.

But having certain Intelligence that these Parties did not deliver up their Prisoners to the French, but on the contrary dispersed them among themselves, & treated them very kindly, he concluded there must be some grand Scheme of the Indians, independant of the French Schemes, & by some Presents he prevailed upon one of his old friends one of the Six Nations to let him into the Secret.

This Indian told him that

the Onondago Council was not pleased with the English settling the Lands so far back, for they apprehended the English extending their settlements on the one Side, & the French securing the other Side by Forts, must some time hence end in a total extirpation of them unleſs timely prevented; that altho the English always purchased the Lands, they settled, yet it was of little importance to them whether it was taken by Force, or settled by virtue of purchasing it, since in either case they would lose their Lands, & the consideration they got, was soon spent, altho' the Lands remained: & as they judged it absolutely neceſsary to aſsert their own Independancy they communicated a Scheme to the Delawares, Shawonese, Munsies, and Nanticokes, for that Purpose, & promised on their good Behaviour to incorporate them with the six Nations; the Part they were to act, was to fall on the back Inhabitants of this Province & drive them off as far as the South Mountain, which by the Aſsistance of the French they expected they would be able to effect; That by the Time they had accomplished this, they made no doubt but the English would be glad to make peace which they intended to comply with, provided that Mountain was agreed upon. as a Boundary to their Settlements: upon concluding a Peace with the English. they were determined to ask their assistance to drive off the French from Ohio. which they expected would be easily done by cutting off the communication between their Forts. and starving them out, & as they imagined their own Strength insufficient to carry this Plan into Execution, they have been treating with the Cherokees, & Creek Indians to come into Alliance with them. & settle on the Ohio, in which they are in great hopes of succeeding. & the more so, as South Carolina Government have lately purchased all their Lands.

Croghan asked him if all the Six Nations agreed to this Plan. to which he answered that he believed neither the Mohawks, nor Oneidoes, had come into it.

I wrote to a gentleman at New York, to lay this Scheme before General Johnson, for his opinion, & he writes me, that Mr Johnson, says it is the actual Scheme, for that it agrees & coincides with all the Conferences, he has had with the Indians lately.

I am &c

Wm West.

NB: please to read this after letter of ye 14th Jan:y

[illegible] from Wm Trent see p. 13

January 12th 1756

Sir

In Compliance with your request I will herein give you the Indian Intelligence I had from Mr George Croghan.. he told me that when a party of the Delawares and Shawnese from Ohio had Scalp'd and taken Prisoners several of the Inhabitants of Patterson's Creek, and afterwards some of that Party having destroyed the great Cove; he concluded that the French had stirr'd them up against us, in order to drive off the Back Settlers so as to make it the more difficult for us to supply an Army in a Future Expedition against Fort Due Quesne.

But having Certain Intelligence that these parties did not deliver up their Prisoners to the French, but on the contrary dispers'd them amongst themselves and treated them very kindly; he then concluded there must be some grand Scheme of the Indians, Independant of the French Schemes, and by some presents he prevailed upon One of his Old friends one of the Six Nations to let him into the Secret:

This Indian told him that the Onondaga Council was not pleas'd with the English settling the Lands so far back, for they apprehended the English Extending their Settlements on the One Side and the French securing the other side by Forts must some time hence End in a Totall Extirpation of them, Unleſs timely prevented; that altho' the English allways purchased the Lands they settled, yet it was of little Importance to them whether it was taken by force or settled by Virtue of purchasing it, since in Either Case they would lose their Lands, and the Consideration they got was soon spent altho' the Lands remained; and as they judged it absolutely neceſsary to aſsert their own Independance; they communicated a Scheme to the Delawares, Shawnese, Munsies and Nanticokes, for that Purpose, and promis'd on their good behaviour to incorporate them with the Six Nations.

The part they were to Act was to fall on the back Inhabitants of this Province &c. and drive them off as far as the South Mountain which by the Aſsistance of the French they Expected they would be able to Effect, That by the time they had accomplish'd this, they made no doubt but the English would be glad to make peace, which they intended to comply with, provided that Mountain was agreed upon as a boundary to their Settlements. Upon Concluding a peace with the English they were determin'd to ask their Aſsistance to drive off the

French from Ohio, which they Expected would be Easily done by Cutting off the Communication between their Forts and Starving them out; and as they imagin'd their own Strength Insufficient to Carry this Plan into Execution, they have been treating with the Cherokee and Creek Indians to come into an Alliance with them and settle on the Ohio, in which they are in great hopes of Succeeding. and the more so as South Carolina Government have lately purchased all their Lands.

Croghan ask'd him if all the Six Nation's agreed to this Plan, to which he answer'd that he believ'd neither the Mohawks nor Oniedas had come into it. I wrote to a Gentleman at New York to lay this Scheme before General Johnson for his Opinion, and he writes me, that Mr. Johnson says it is the Actual Scheme for that it agrees and Coincides with all the Conferences he has had with the Indians Lately—

Honble Sr

(Copy.) Philada 4th Jany 1756:

On Tuesday last ye Govr & my Bror set out for Reading & from thence to proceed to Harris's Ferry to hold ye propos'd Indian Treaty, but I doubt wth few Indians

[I mention'd ye gt Desire every body express'd here for offering Rewards for Scalps, & our subscribing at ye Coffeehouse 700 Dollars for ye Heads of Shingas & Captain Jacobs, but for Shingas & other Ringleaders [illegible] as is so fully mention'd in ye News Papers I now send & ye Original went by ye Man of War I need not copy ye whole letter]

'Tis say'd Geo: Croghan who has a Captain's Commission is gone out agt ye Indians — wth 100 Men; And we expect several others in this vacant Season when all Husbandry Work is at a Stand, especially amongst ye poor unhappy Sufferers on ye Borders will be induced by ye Reward for Scalps to go out in strong Ptys agt them, before ye Opening of ye Spring when, if a Piece of Intelligence got from an Enemy Indian Prisoner taken in Northampton Coty, prove true we shall have enough to do to defend ourselves agt a Body of 5,000 French & Indians wch that Prisoner says are to fall upon this Prov: — But be that as it will, it will be very happy for us if ye Indians can during ye Winter be drove away from our Borders, yt our People may be at liberty to return to their Plantations, and as many of them as can be spared join in carrying into execution ye Scheme settled at ye Congress ('tis suppos'd) for attacking Fort du Quesne.

The Govr has prevail'd on Genl Shirley to spare us a Detachmt of 100 Grenadiers & Independts towards our Defence this Winter, but are to return to N: York by ye 15th March to be ready to join ye Forces for an early Campaign. The Govr told ye Council at his return from ye Congress, yt he was not at liberty to disclose any thing of ye Plan of Operations, but we imagine 'twill be pretty much ye Same wth ye last, & fear 'twill be attended with little better Success, unless ye Ministry at home can fall upon some method to bring abt a better Harmony amongst ye great Officers & their Partisans & yt ye Armys may be better supply'd in ye next Campaign than they were ye last.

Some think ye French are so distress'd by our Fleets taking so many of their Ships & ruining their Trade yt they will be under a necessity of accomodating matters wth us this winter on our own terms. If that desireable Event should happen, will it not be requisite for you to be forming a Scheme for settling your back Lands, especially those beyond ye Mountains, on some such Plan as ye New Eng People do theirs, I mean by 30, or 40 Families in one Settlemt who are taken in ye settlemt & stoccaded in or otherwise fortify'd yt on any Alarm they may immediately carry in their Cattle & fly to their Arms & defend themselves & Familys. For wthout some such method I fear it will be a long time before ye People will be prevail'd on to return to ye settling ye Out lands wch lye so much exposed to ye Incursions of these bloody Savages.

GENERAL WILLIAM SHIRLEY TO THE SIX NATIONS [1]

D. S.

The Speech of His Excellency Major General William Shirley General and Commander in Chief of all His Majesty's Forces in North America.

To the Sachems & Warriors of the Indians of the Six Nations.

" Bretheren

The Great King of England your Father having committed to me the Command of all His Forces raised & to be raised upon the Continent of North America and in a particular manner commanded me to protect your Country and the Lands which your Forefathers have conquered and are of right your territories, against all violence & Attempts of the French our common Enemy, and to cultivate a strict Friendship & alliance between him & you. I take the first oppertunity of communicating this to you by Major General Johnson whom I have now ordered to visit you & take care of your Interest.

Bretheren

Since I came to this Place I have heard much News which concern you as well as all the English & therefore do now send General Johnson to speak my Mind to you.

Bretheren

Perhaps you think the Weather looks somewhat Cloudy, the French are proud & have for some time past been very insolent more so than is fit for you & us to bear. They threaten more but be no frightened. I am not so. They are but few, we are many, they are but a handful, if we all take up the Hatchet against them, it behoves you Bretheren to be wise and to remain stedfast to your old Friends the English; the Great King of England is determined not only to protect you as well as his subjects in America but to chastise the French for their repeated Insolencies.

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[1] Original destroyed by fire. Inclosed in Shirley to Johnson, January 13, 1756.

Bretheren

The Governor of Pensilvania hath informed me that he hath sent a Message to you of great importance by Scarrooyady and Andrew Montour, I hope you have heard them with great Attention and have considered well what they said.

Bretheren

The Indians called the Delawares & Shawanese who live in & near Pensilvania have for a long time past lived in Friendship with the People of that Province, Maryland & Virginia, those People have always treated them as Friends & Brothers, and yet they have without any Provocation, and without giving them any Notice, taken up the Hatchet against them & struck their Tomahawks in them whilst they lay asleep in their Beds not expecting any harm from them, they have killed & Scalped numbers, they burnt their Houses & Barns & have killed their horses & Cattle.

Bretheren

The People of Pensilvania are always a Peaceable People, they did not love War, not because they are weak & unable to fight, they are strong & have great numbers of Men, this Behaviour of the Delaware & Shawanese Indians hath made them resolve to fight and they will have revenge.

Bretheren

The Indians the Delawares & Shawanese always lived under your Direction, they looked upon you as their Masters, and you looked upon them as Women, who wore Petticoats, they never dared do anything of Importance without your leave, for they knew if they did you would chastise them, yet those People have now dared to make war upon your Antient Friends.

Bretheren

It behoves you to join heartily with the People of Pensilvania in punishing those Indians, for unless you do, we cant but think you have given them leave to do what they have done, and if they have not your leave yet it behoves you more to punish them, if you dont they will dare look you in the face, they will think themselves as good men as you, and you will loose the Name of being their Masters.

Bretheren

I must again desire you will join in chastising those Indians, that you will send some of your Warriors against them, that they may know you are still our Friends, that you are Men & they are but Women.

Bretheren of the Onondagas & Cayugaes

When I saw some of your chief Sachems & Warriors at Oswego, your Hearts & my Heart seemed to be one, you promised to be true Friends to the English & to join with us against our Enemies the French; and I promised to do all in my Power to protect you against the French; you desired I would build a Fort in your Country, which I will do as soon as the Weather is fit for Men to work, you also promised to send some of your Sachems to meet me next Spring at Oswego.

Bretheren of the Oneidas

Some of your chief Sachems & Warriors met me in my way from Oswego at the Great Carrying Place, I desired them to tell me whether your Nation would join heartily with us against the French but they told me they would not give any answer, till they had consulted the rest of your Sachems & Warriors, you desired me to send you a number of Men to build you a Fort which I understood was to be for you & the Tuscaroras, I sent you a Number of Men to build you a Fort, but I have heard that they went away, since which I have sent more Men to you for that purpose and I hope they have almost finished it.

Bretheren of the Mohocks

In my return from Oswego I had not time to stop at your upper Castle at Connajohary, but I sent my Secretary & some of my officers there to console with you for the Loss of your Great Sachem Hendrick & other Warriors at Lake George & to wipe away your Tears & to inquire after your Healths. I visited your lower Castle where your Chief Sachems & Warriors there told me, that they & we were one, that our Enemies were their Enemies and that when the Hatchett was lifted up against our Head it was against their Head.

Bretheren of the Six Nations

It is now your time to resolve whether you will join heartily with the English against their & your Enemies; I told you before that the Great King of England is determined to chastise the French and all those who join with them & for that purpose I am now raising a great Army to go against them early in the Spring; if you join heartily with us, the Work will be easy, your Country will then remain in Peace to you, & the Neighbouring Nations will know that you are still able to conquer them.

W. SHIRLEY

By His Excellencys
Command
Wm. ALEXANDER
Secry.

FROM ROBERT RODGERS

A. L. S.[1]

Fort Wm Henry 14th Janry 1756.

Set out with a party Under My Comand with Orders to Distress the Enemy at Carilon — we Marched Down the lake George on the Ice Till we Came to ye. first Narrows & there we Campd the first Night: ye. 15th in ye. Morning Set Out Again & Traveled that Day 25 Miles & then Campd till Midnight & Set

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[1] In New York Public Library, Emmet Collection.

Out [*Again*[1]] and traveled Again on the Ice till we Came within 6 Miles of Corilong and there we lay all day on ye. 16th [*Day*[1]] by the foot of a Great Mountain without any fire and abt Sunset we Set out and Traveled By Corilong within Half amile of the fort; and abt 4 O Clock in the Morning we Came to ye. Lake Champlain and waylaid a point on the East Side of the lake and abt Seven O Clock there Came Two French Men with a horse and Slay loaded with fresh Beef Bound from Crown Point To Carilong we Imediatly Made them Prisoners & left the Horse and Slay and Set Homewards and on ye. 19th day at 8 o Clock We Arived at fort Wm Henry all well and Our prisoners Safe

A true Jornall Ꝑr. Yr. Hule.
Sert
Robt. Rodgers

To Genl Johnson

FROM JOHN C. HARTWICK ET AL.

There are found in the Johnson Calendar (*See* p. 72) the following papers, which were destroyed by fire: a letter of January 13th to Johnson from John C. Hartwick, at Staatsborough, proposing a plan for better defending and governing the provincial frontiers (printed in *Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:294–96; Q, 4:191–92); Hartwick's letter of the 15th to Abraham and Paulus Petersen and other Mohawks, conveying congratulation, condolence and counsel with request for signatures to a petition (*Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:296–98; Q, 4:192–93); the address, undated, of Mohawk chiefs and others to King George, commending Hartwick's plan and petitioning for a land grant in his behalf (*Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 4:298–301; Q, 4:193–95); and Hartwick's letter, of the 15th, expressive of gratitude to Johnson and desire for his prosperity. P. 73, a letter, of the 17th, from Johnson, at New York, to the lords of trade, arguing that his office should be placed on an independent basis and showing the need of provincial legislation to undo land frauds (*Doc. Hist. N. Y.*, 2:644–48; Q, 2:376–78, and *Doc. Rel. to Col. Hist. N. Y.*, 7:7–9); not destroyed. Also a letter, of the 17th, to Johnson from

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[1] Erased in the original.

P. S. Since according to his Majestys Instructions a Fund for an Indefinite Salary for the Governor must be provided Quarit wether not this scheme might be improved so as to be something subservient to it, in such Case it would be advizable that such Burggraviates must be subject to the Governors and a Deputy Governor resident in the Chief Burgtown. And i have forgotten in the Letter to observe that the Inhabitants, who must be obligd, by Turns to guard the Forts and defend the Frontiers must be exempt from taxes and from bearing a share in the Expenses belonging to the Government of the Provinces to wich they are the Barrier. I hope Sir you will improve these Raw Hints, wich to Day expecting your arrival are come in my mind and that you will pardon my Freedom and immature Patriotism I wish you, Honourable Sir, an happy New Year and if possible Peace, if not, Victory and Success.

REV. MR HARTWICK TO THE MOHAWKS OF CANAJOHARE.

Beloved Brethren!

Grace be unto you, and Peace from God our Father and from the Lord Jesus Christ.

For as much as i have been hindred for a considerable Time, both by Reason of Sickness and your absence to see your Face or to write to you, and as i apprehend, you might be concerned or troubled in your mind about it as i am: i could not forbear imbracing an opportunity of Speaking to you in Letters, wich i expected the Honourable General Johnson, would give me if i or a Letter could hit him at his Return from New York. Dear Brethren, i at the same Time will condole and congratulate you. that on the victory obtained by you; this because of the spilling of so much noble and brave Blood, in particular that of our Brother Henry. But i forbear, saying more about it, least i should perhaps make the Wound, wich beginns to heal soar and bleed again. Let it be to your Comfort: That he died in a good Cause as a faithfull allie and a brave Captain, and sleepeth on the Bed of Honour, where his Name will be a good Savour, as long as a Free Englishman and faithful Mohawk remains over And as he hath been your Brother your Father and your Captain, it is your Duty to be a Guard to the Bed whereon he sleepeth. That no perfidious Frenchmen may disturbe the Rest of his Bones, and ashes: And if the French and their Slaves will not rest satisfied with the litle Revenge you have taken from them, and desist from their Incroachments and cruel Ravages, and restore what they have unjustly taken: then stand up for your and your Bretherns Right and revenge the dear Blood so unjustly spilt! I would also beseech you, Brethern that you would not suffer, that some, who are unworthy to be lookd upon by you as Brethren or even Men, because they are more cruel than Savage Beasts, might spoil the Good name and Fame you have of late purchased with your blood. That your Heart might not be as a stone but be moved with Compassion and on hearing of the more then barbarous Treatment your Brethren the English in Pensylvania & parts adjacent have met with.

And as to the Cognawaghes who are of your Blood, let them know that it would have been 100 Times better for them, to have accepted your Generous offer of Peace and Friendship then to Reject it on so frivolous Excuses; as; their having been washd with the same Water as the French Since there is but one Baptism, and you are washd with the same Water as they. Since even the Papists do not even repaptize those of the protistants that imbrace their superstitious Way of Worship.

I let you know also beloved, that if you are good spiritual Warriors who manfully fight under the Banner of your Chief Captain Jesus, against your Spiritual Enemies, vidzt wicked Spirits & men as also your own bad Inclinations and Habits: That then the Great God, who is calld Immanuel, that is to say: God with us will be with you & fight your Battles.

Lastly my Brethren, Let my tears be wipd of, for the Death of my Brother Henry, by a letter to Great King George, wich i beseech you to subscribe in my Behalf, lest i might loose the Fruit of so many years' toil, trouble and charges. And i assure you, as soon as the Lord shall enable me, you shall not find me ungratefull. And as I have not been unmindfull hitherto, but remembered you at the Throne of Grace, so i shall in Times to come.

The Lord be with you and your Love with me, who am
Beloved Brethren your Loving Brother
Servant and Intercessor by God
JOHN CHRISTOPHER HARTWICK.

taatsborough y^e 15th of January 1756.

(Addressed) To Abraham Petersen, Paulus Petersen,
Niclas and the Rest of the Brethren of
the Mohawks of the Castle at Canadshohare.

PROPOSED ADDRESS TO THE KING IN FAVOR OF THE REV^D M^R HARTWICK.

To the Great Sachem of the Brittish Nation George the Second of Great Brittain, France and Ireland King, Defender of the pure Christian Faith Nursing Father of the seven Indian Nations of America

The humble Address of the Chiefs and others of the Mohawk Indians of Canad Schohary

May it please Your Majesty !

Whereas We from a long Experience, are convinced, not only of Your Majestys Power and Inclination, to defend your subjects from their Insults and Attacks of their Ennemies, but also of your Majesty's Faithfullness in Performing your Covenants with your Majesty's alliance and Protection before that of the French King against all attemts of the latter to intice and move us to the Contrary and therefore both formerly and now in particular lately, being moved thereunto, by our Brother General Johnsen have renewed the Covenant Chain subsisting between Your Majesty and the Six Nations, and increased it, with linking another Nation to it, by wich means Your Majestys Interest is become ours, wich now, after the famous and glorious Battel and Victory fought and obtained against and over the French Army at Lake George, under the Wise Conduct of our brave Brother General Johnsen, since it costs us a good proportion of our best and noblest Blood, our Captain Henry besides   more being killd in it, to wich Victory on this occasion we take the opportunity humbly and heartily to congratulate Your Majesty, is become still more so. Hence, and from many considerations more it is morally impossible for us, That we should undertake, do or advize any thing, to the Hurt of Your Majesty's or our Brethren's Your Faithful Subjects Interest.

And whereas We, who live between Your Majesty's and the French Kings Territories naturally must know better, what is conducive to the Defension of the Fronteer of Your Majestys Dominions in America, than those living remoter can know.

Therefore do we hope, that Your Majesty will graciously indulge us humbly to advize something concerning the Savety of the extreme Parts of Your Majesty's Dominions.

By long Experience we know, that the Guarding the Provinces of Your Majesty against the Incroachments and Insults of a foreign Enemy, by Means depending on an Assembly the Members whereof, for the greatest Part live remote from them, is a very precarious and ineffectual Method, and therefore humbly take upon us, to propose another, vizt.

Dear Brother   Carlisle 1 mo the 16: 1756.

As I have this Oppo. by Return of the Express who came last night here from Philada. to the Commissrs. I thought it might be Agreeable to my Frds & [illegible] to know what has been Doing ~~here~~. — I Came here this day Week after a Painfull disagreeable Ride, and so much afflicted with my Rheumatick disordr. by the Damp Rainy Weather, that I should Certainly have Returned but that as I knew if the Indians Came, and a treaty Should be held with em It would be of Such Consequence in this Critical Juncture, that it appeared ~~it~~ my Duty to Use my Utmost Endeavours to Attend, in Ordr to prevent if I might have any Influence, the Going into a General Indian War which by the Imprudent Advertisemt in the Publick Papers seemed to me too likely to be Intended. — When I Came here I found the Govr. & Commissrs. had arrived the Day before, but no Indians, Except the Old Belt & his family, Who came from Harris's Ferry. two Days after abt. Eight came, & a Message Sent by G. Croghan & Hugh Crawford from about Aughwick. & Yesterday about as many More Were Expected but are not yet Come, & as they could not have any ~~Notice~~ Intelligence in Due time from the Shortness of the Notice; as

more

can possibly Come. The Governr met those few that are Come Yesterday, Acquainted them with the Intention of his Journey, the Circumstances of the Province by the many Cruel & barbarous Murders, & desired to be Informed Whether the knew ye Causes & by what Nations of Indians, With some More suitable Questions of the like Nature. This they desired, as Usual, time to Consider and We Expect their Answer this Afternoon, there are but few of this small Number of Indians that appear to be Men of Consequence, but as they are known to be Our Friends hitherto hope they Will be able to Give such Information, as Will tend to Point Out some Method to be fallen On to Prevent & Put a stop to their future Cruel Murders & Ravages, which I sincerely desire —— I hope We Shall be able to leave this place to Morrow Afternoon, from Whence the Governr intends to Call at York to Shake some few Of Our Friendly Indns who live thereabouts by the Hands, & then to Lancaster to meet there those few Indians (abt 30) who live at ye Conestogo Town & make ym a small Present, Which I think cannot be Amiss, that I Cannot Judge When I may be at home —— As I write to any

Wife last 1st day by the Post
for this, have no time to W
immediately, Which I kno
As I keep my self Warm
Rain from my Journey
Except at Lancaster
Stone Water, which Eq
Please to give my kin
a share of the same to thy
Relations & Frds as Frien

Thy

The last Nights Express brings
England by Way of New Yk, bu
of the Contents or any News fr
Obliged to thee to Collect what
New Yk News Papers from
at Lancaster, till my Re
of Health of my Family, a
Home —— Wm Peters or
of any Exprss Coming to th

p.d.

To
John Smith
Mercht
Phila

d). The Govern^r. met those few that are Come
inted them with the Intention of his Journey,
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nall Present, Which I think cannot be Amiss,
Judge When I may be at home — As I write to
my

Wife last 2d. day by the Post. I Shall Omit it now, & Desire thee to Shew her this, having no time to Write further now, as the Messenger is Going immediately, Which I knew not till a few Minutes Since —

As I keep myself Warm In the house I am Pretty Easy as to Pain from my Rheumatism, & Every other Way tolerably well Except a Laxative Disorder Occasioned by Drinking y^e Lime Stone Water, which Equally affects most of Our Company

Please to give my kind Love to my Wife & Children, & accept a Share of the same to thy self & my Sister & Children & all Our other Relations & Fr^ds. as P^rticularly as if named from

Thy Affectionate Bro^r.
Will^m. Logan

The last Nightly Ex^press brings y^e Govern^r. Sundry Letters from England by Way of New Y^k, but as he mentions nothing of the Contents or any News from thence relat^g to the Province, I should be Obliged to thee to Collect what thou Canst (if Any) & Send to me with my New Y^k News Papers from W^m. Franklin's, to be left at Edw^d. Shippen's at Lancaster, till my Return there, also a P^rticular Acc^t. of y^e Health of my Famil, of which I have heard nothing since I left Home — W^m. Peters or Evan Morgan Will always know of any Ex^press Coming to the Govern^t. Which Will be a Good Opp^o.

To

John Smith

Merchant

2d Second Street

Philadelphia

Wm Logan · 1mo: 16 · 1756

There is about 20 of the Oghquagy and Tuscororas here these eight days past, and about 30 more expected; the Express says there will be a vast Number of the Five Nations down; this goes by Express, which the Indians insisted on. I am,

Sir, your most obedient humble Servant,

ROBERT ADAMS.

EXTRACT FROM INDIAN PROCEEDINGS

Contemporary Copy[1]

Extract from the Records of S^{r} William Johnsons Indian Proceedings.

Last January whilst S^{r} William was on his Way home from Newyork, the Senecas Sent an Express to him with a Belt of black Wampum, with the following Intelligence which was brought to Fort Johnson by two Oneida Indians, and forwarded by the Deputy Secretary to S^{r} William. It met him at Albany the 20. or 29 of January, when he immediately dispatched Copies of it by Express to Gen^{l}. Shirley and S^{r} Charles Hardy.

The Seneca Message

Brother Warraghiyagey

About 3 Weeks ago, came a large Vessell to Niagara, with a french Officer on Board, who enquired where his Childeren were who allways kept there, for that he could not see any of them.

The French Officers Speech to the 6. Nations

Childeren

The English have been threatening us all last Summer about taking Niagara and Cadaraghqui Forts, which I dreaded very much, especially Niagara which is to be compared to nothing else than a decayed Tree, which if a Small Blast of Wind came would blow it down.

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[1] In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.; in handwriting of Peter Wraxall.

Children. I have been at the defeating of the English at Ohio, and hearing of General Johnsons coming to Crown Point, I immediately set off to meet him. When I first met his People, the smoak of my Guns made such a Darkness before my Eyes, that I could not see my Childeren, but in Marching a little further discovered Numbers of them laying dead in the Road which made my heart bleed, as I heard Gen^{l}. Johnson had said he did not want his Brothers to fight, but to look on and See him fight.

Children

I now tell you that I am going to steal Oswego from the English, and my Army thats coming is very numerous and makes a great Noise.

I dont intend to listen any more to my Children who are about my Ears, for I will do now as I please, and Children you have never heard me promise anything, but what I allways fulfilled and I desire you Children to keep from that Place called Oswego"

Brother Warraghiyagey

We the Sachems of the 5 Nations now assembled at Onondaga, do let you know that we See Death before our Eyes, and that we Send this Post, to desire that there may be Men ready to Send to the Relief of Oswego, for you may assure yourself, the above is nothing but the Truth.

N:B; a Copy of this Intelligence was transmitted
by S^{r}. William Johnson from Albany

by Express to Genl. Shirley and Sr Charles
Hardy the 20 or 29. January 1756.[1]

A true Extract from the
Records Examd. by
PETER WRAXALL
Sectry.

INDORSED:

Extract from Indian Records
of Indian Intelligence
about Oswego

TO WILLIAM SHIRLEY

A. Df.[2]

Albany Janry. 29th, 1756

SIR

On my Arrival here the 2[illegible]th, after a tedious and fatigeing Journy, I recd. a Message from the Sachims of the Six Nations by Express, that the French are determined to attack Oswego verry Soon, I refer You to what they sayed at my House about it, which I inclose to You, also a Coppy of a Letter from John Van Seice.[3] much to the same purpose, but more incorrect. I also Send You Coppy of a letter I recd. yesterday from Collo. Whiting[4] who Commands at Fort Edward.

I think if the French design attacking Oswego, they will not come from Niagara to do it as by the way of Cadarachqui would be much nearer & more convenient even at any Season of the Year. I propose Setting of to Morrow Morning for my House, Where I understand there are a good Many Indians from

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[1] This note is crossed out in the manuscript. A copy of the intelligence was sent by Hardy to Gov. Morris of Pennsylvania.

[2] In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

[3] Van Sice to Johnson, Jan. 23, 1756.

[4] Nathan Whiting.

Extract from the Records of Sr. William Johnsons Indian Proceedings.

Last January whilst Sr. William was on his way home from Newport, the Senecas sent an Express to him with a Belt of black Wampum with the following Intelligence which was brought to Fort Johnson by two Seneca Indians, and forwarded by the Deputy Secretary to Sr. William. It met him at Albany the 26. or 27. of January, when he immediately dispatched Copies of it by Express to Genl. Shirley and Sr. Charles Hardy.

The Seneca Message

Brother Warraghiyagey

About 3 Weeks ago, came a large Vessell to Niagara, with a french Officer on board, who enquired where his Children were who always kept there, for that he could not see any of them.

The French Officers Speech to the 6 Nations

Children

The English have been threatening us all last summer about taking Niagara and Cadaraghqui Forts, which I dreaded very much, especially Niagara which is to be compared to nothing else than a decayed Tree, which if a small Blast of Wind came would blow it down.

Children I have been at the defeating of the English at Ohio, and hearing of General Johnsons coming to Crown point, I immediately set off to meet him. When I first met his People, the Smoak of my Guns made such a Darkness before my Eyes, that I could not see my Children, but in marching a little further discovered Numbers of them laying dead on the Road which made my heart bleed, as I heard Genl. Johnson had said he did not want his Brothers to fight, but to look on and see him fight.

Children

I now tell you that I am going to beat Oswego from the English, and my Army that's coming is very numerous and makes a great Noise.

I dont intend to listen any more to my Children who are about my Ears, for I will do now as I please and Children you have never heard me promise any thing but what I allways fulfilled and I desire you Children to keep from that Place called Oswego."

Brother Warraghiyagey!

We the Sachems of the 6 Nations

now aſsembled at Onondaga, do let you know that we see Death before our Eyes and that we, for this Cost, do desire that there may be Men ready to send to the Relief of Oswego, for you may aſsure yourself, the above is nothing but the Truth.

~~N.B. a Copy of this Intelligence was transmitted by Sr. William Johnson from Albany to his Excy. Govr. Shirley and Sr. Charles Hardy the 28. of January 1756.~~

A true Extract from the
Records Examd. by
[illegible]
Secy.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Thursday 29th: January 1756.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell
Benjamin Shoemaker
William Logan
Joseph Turner
Richard Peters
Benjamin Chew
Lynford Lardner
John Mifflin
Thomas Cadwalader
Esquires

The several Minutes of the Proceedings of the Council, in the Governor's Absence, being now read and approved by his Honour, he directed that they should be entered in their Order of Dates.

The Governor communicated to the Council, a full and particular Account of his Conferences and Proceedings with the few Indians, who met him at the proposed Indian Treaty at Harris's Ferry and Carlisle, and with the Connestogoe Indians at Lancaster, and of the Measures he had taken with the Commissioners for defending the Province against the Incursions and Ravages of the Indians &c, by erecting Forts or Block Houses at divers proper Places on or near the Frontier of the settled Parts of the Province, and hiring several Companies under proper Officers for the garrisoning them &c, with the several other material Transactions of his late Journey; and then the Minutes of the Indian Treaty &c, were read, with all which the Gentlemen of the Council appeared well pleased, and unanimously declared their Approbation, and they were ordered to be entered, as follows.

At a Meeting of the Governor and Commissioners at Reading Friday the 2d: January 1756.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

James Hamilton
Benjamin Franklin
Joseph Fox
Esquires

The Governor and Commissioners not thinking it right to come to a Determination on several important Matters that had been under their Consideration, until it could be known what Number of Indians would come to the proposed Treaty, and with what Dispositions, it was agreed to proceed immediately to hold that Treaty; and as at Harris's there was but one single House and few Conveniences, Mr. Weiser was called in and asked if it might not be better to hold it at Carlisle, where all the Business of the County might be done at the same Time, and proper Entertainment provided as well for the Governor and his Company, as for the Indians, should they prove numerous.

Mr. Weiser, in answer, said, it was his Opinion, that such of the Sasquehannah Indians as were true to us had removed either among the Six Nations, or to the uppermost Branches of Sasquehannah, and that the rest, headed perhaps by a few French, and some of the Shawonese and Delawares from Ohio, were the Indians now perpetrating the Mischiefs in Northampton County; and as these were begun before Mr. Dupui and his Company were set out for the Sasquehannah, they would be thereby prevented from going; and that tho Hugh Crawford the Indian Trader had at his Instance undertaken to carry the Governor's Invitation to the Wyomink Indians, by the way of Sasquehannah, and to get Indians at Aucquick to go with him as a Safeguard, yet, having heard nothing of him, he was apprehensive that he either was not gone, or had had no Succeſs. He added further, that most of the Indians who used to be at Harris's, were gone to Mr. Croghan's at Aucquick, and none that he knew of remained there, except the Old Belt and an Indian called, by reason he was lame, the Broken Thigh:- For these Reasons he doubted whether any Number of Indians would come to Harris's, and as Carlisle was nearer to Aucquick, and Mr. Croghan might have Notice by Expreſs to attend there, and bring the Indians along with him, he thought Carlisle the better Place.

And accordingly an Expreſs was dispatched to Mr. Buchannan and to Mr. Croghan to inform them that the Governor and Commiſsioners would set out on Monday for Carlisle, and hold the Treaty there instead of Harris's, and desired every thing neceſsary might be prepared against they came there, and the Indians brought to Town.

At a Council held at the House of Mr. John Harris on Sasquehannah in Pextang Township Lancaster County on Thursday the 8th. January 1756.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

James Hamilton Richard Peters Esquires

Joseph Fox Esquire Commiſsioner

Two Indians of the Six Nations called

The Belt of Wampum - - - - - a Seneca
The Broken Thigh - a Mohock

Conrad Weiser Esquire Interpreter.

The Governor finding here only two Indians and their Families, he sent for them into Council and spoke as follows,

Brethren,

I thank you for staying here. You see that agreeable to my Meſsage I am come at the Time appointed, but I find no other Indians here than you two, and indeed I expect no more, as I believe my Meſsengers were prevented going to Wyomink by the Ravages of the Indians which began in their Neighbourhood at the Time they were preparing to set out on their Journey.

Brethren,

The publick Buſineſs requires my Presence at Carlisle, where I am now going, and I invite you to go along with me. If you incline to take any of your Familys with you, I shall readily agree to it, and provide a Carriage for them and You.

A String.

To this the Belt replied.

Brethren,

I thank you for sending for us to Council, and for your kind Speech. What you have said is very agreeable.

Brethren,

The Sky is dark all around us. The mischiefs done to you I consider as done to the Six Nations, and am sorry for what has happened, and heartily condole with you upon it; but be not disheartened. As the publick Buſineſs is committed to you, nothing should be suffered to lye on your Minds that might in anywise impair your Judgment, which is now more neceſsary than ever. Let me therefore by this String entreat you to put away all Grief from your Heart, and to dry up your Tears, that you may think and see clearly when you come to Council.

I accept your Invitation, and shall follow you to Carliſle.

Gave a String.

At a Council held at Carlisle Tuesday the 13th January 1756.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

James Hamilton
Richard Peters
William Logan } Esquires

Joseph Fox Esquire Commiſsioner, Mr. Croghan

Mr. Croghan having been desired by the Governor in December last, to do all in his Power to gain Intelligence of the Motions and Designs of the Indians, and being now in Town was sent for into Council, and, at the Instance of the Governor, gave the following Information, vizt.

That he sent Delaware Jo, one of our friendly Indians to the Ohio for Intelligence, who returned to his House at Aucquick the eighth Instant, and informed him, that he went to Kittannin, an Indian Delaware Town on the Ohio, about forty Miles above Fort Duquesne, the Residence of Chingas and Captain Jacobs, where he found one hundred and forty Men, chiefly Delawares and Shawonese, who had then with them above one hundred English Prisoners big and little, taken from Virginia and Pennsylvania.

That there the Beaver, Brother of Chingas, told him, that the Governor of Fort Duquesne had often offered the French Hatchet to the Shawonese and Delawares, who had as often refused it, declaring they would do as they should be advised by the Six Nations; but that in April or May last a Party of Six Nation Warriors in Company with some Caghnawagos and Adirondacks called at the French Fort in their going to War against the Southern Indians, and on these the Governor of Fort Duquesne prevailed to offer the French Hatchet to the Delawares and Shawonese who received it from them, and went directly against Virginia.

That neither the Beaver nor several Others of the Shawonese and Delawares approved of this Measure, nor had taken up the Hatchet; and the Beaver believed some of those who had were sorry for what they had done, and would be glad to make up Matters with the English.

That from Kittannin he went to the Logs Town, where he found about one hundred Indians, and thirty English Prisoners taken by the Shawonese living at the Lower Shawonese Town, from the Western Frontier of

Virginia and sent up to Logs Town, he was told the same thing by these … Shawonese that the Beaver had told him before respecting their striking the English by the Advice of some of the Six Nations, and further he was informed, that the French had sollicited the Indians to sell them the English Prisoners, … which they had refused, declaring they would not dispose of them, but keep them until they should receive Advice from the Six Nations what to do with them.

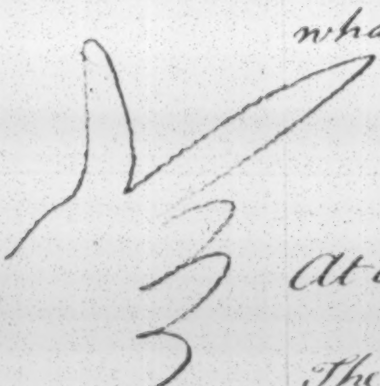
That there are more or leſs of the Six Nations living with the Shawonese and Delawares in their Towns, and these always accompanied them in their Incursions upon the English, and took Part with them in the War.

That when at Logs Town, which is near Fort Duquesne on the opposite Side of the River, he intended to have gone there to see what the French were doing in that Fort; but could not croſs the River for the driving of the Ice, he was however informed, that the Number of the French did not exceed four hundred.

That he returned to Kittannin, and there learned that Ten Delawares were gone to the Sasquehannah, and as he supposed to persuade those Indians, to strike the English; who might perhaps be concerned in the Mischief lately done in the County of Northampton.

No more than Seven Indians being as yet come to Carlisle, Mr. Croghan was asked the Reason of it, he said that the Indians were mostly gone an hunting, but he expected as many more at least would come in a day or two.

Mr. Weiser was then sent for; and it was taken into Consideration what should be said to the Indians.



At a Council held at Carlisle Wednesday the 14th January 1756.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

James Hamilton
Richard Peters
William Logan } Esquires
Joseph Fox Esquire Commiſsioner

Mr. Weiser
Mr. Croghan
Aroas or Silver Heels

Mr. Hamilton informed the Governor and Council, that, in November last, … being at John Harris's, and finding the People collected there in the utmost Confusion, and in continual Fear of being fallen upon by a large Body of French and Indians, who were said by Scarrooyady and Montour to have paſsed the Allegheny Hills in their March towards this Province, he had promised Aroas, an Indian of the Six Nations then at Harris's, called in English Silver Heels, that he would give him an handsome Reward if he would undertake to go along the East Side of Sasquehannah, as far as to Shamokin and Nescopecha, to observe what was doing by the Indians there, and return with the Intelligence; he accordingly went, and not having receiv any Consideration for his Journey, he was called in and desired to relate what he found doing among the Indians there, and he gave the following

Account; That he found no Indians at Shamokin, and therefore proceeded higher up Sasquehannah, as far as to Nescopecha, where he saw one hundred and forty Indians all Warriors; that they were dancing the War Dance, expressed great Bitterness against the English, and were preparing for an Expedition against them, and he thought would go to the Eastward. He did not stay with them, finding them in this Disposition, but went to the House of an Uncle of his, at a little Distance from Nescopecha, between that and Wyomink, who told him the Delawares and Shawonese on the Ohio were persuaded by the French to strike the English, and had put the Hatchet into the Hands of the Sasquehannah Indians, a great many of whom had taken it greedily, and there was no persuading them to the contrary, and that they would do abundance of Mischief to the People of Pennsylvania, against whom they were preparing to go to War.

After which Mr Croghan said, he was well assured by Accounts given him by other Indians, that the Delawares and Shawonese acted in this hostile Manner by the Advice and with the Concurrence of the Six Nations, and that such of these as lived in the Delaware Towns went along with them, and took Part in their Incursions; and further, that a Party of the Six Nations had brought some of the Cherokees from their Country, and settled them on the Ohio at Kentucke River, about one hundred Miles below the Lower Shawonese Town, where they were now living.

Mr Croghan was asked why the Delaware he sent to the Ohio did not come with the other Indians, and he said, that he had undertaken to carry a Message from one of his Relations whom he saw on the Ohio to some of his Friends on the Sasquehannah, and was gone upon that Errand; he further said, that he had sent for the white Mingo and several other Indians of Consequence, and he hoped they would come; but he must inform the Governor, that great Differences had arose between the White Mingo and the Belt about a Successor to Tanacharisson, that they were in great Heats & Parties about it, and if any thing hindered the white Mingo from coming, it would be hearing that the Belt was already at Carlisle.

It was then again taken into Consideration what should be said to the Indians, and in Substance agreed to.

At a Council held at Carlisle Thursday the 15th January 1756.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

James Hamilton William Logan Esquires

Joseph Fox Esquire Commissioner

The Belt Newcastle Silver Heels }
Seneca George Jagrea Isaac & Others } Indians

Interpreters
Conrad Weiser
George Croghan

The Indians having taken their Seats the Governor spoke as follows.

Brethren,

I came to this Part of the Province, and brought with me some of the wise and governing Part of the People of Pennsylvania, with Intention to hold a Treaty with the Indians that were yet our Friends, and for that Purpose sent Meſsages to the several Branches of Sasquehannah, to invite them to meet me at Harris's Ferry; but from the Confusions that attend the present Times, I have reason to believe that the Meſsengers I employed have not been able to go to all our Friends upon that River, so that the Number of Indians now met is not so large as it would otherwise have been; however, you that are come I esteem our hearty Friends, and thank you for meeting us here, which I take the kinder, considering the Dangers that at present attend those who are our real Friends. And in the first Place, you will permit me to thank you for the kind Expreſsions of Condolence, which the Old Belt, in your behalf, made me at Harris's, in my way to this Town upon the Loſses we had sustaind and the Blood that was shed by our Indian Enemies, which he was pleased to say was a common Loſs, and affected you as well as us, thereby signifying that we were one People, and our Cause the same— And you will allow me by this String, to wipe the Dust from your Eyes and Ears, and to desire that what I shall now say to you, in behalf of the People of Pennsylvania, may be heard with Attention, and make a proper Impreſsion on your Minds.

Gave a String

Brethren,

You very well know, and your Ancestors must have informed you of the antient Friendship that has subsisted between the People of this .... Province and the several Tribes and Nations of Indians, as well those of the Six United Nations as Others in their Alliance, from the Time that William Penn first landed in this Country till within these few Months.

This Friendship has ever been sacred on our Parts, and we cannot accuse ourselves of having violated any Treaties that ever subsisted between us; but on the contrary have at all Times and upon all Occasions given Marks of our Love and Affection for our Indian Allies— You cannot be Strangers, Brethren, of the manner in which we have lately been treated by some that not many Months before gave us the strongest Aſsurances of their Fidelity; and of their own Accord renewed the former Friendship subsisting between them and us.

They have in the most cruel and barbarous manner fallen upon our peaceable Inhabitants, living quietly under the Faith of those Treaties that subsisted between us, and slaughtered them without Distinction of Age or Sex. Such a Treatment was what we least expected, and having settled in Peace were not prepared to resist such an Attack— But tho we have been unused to a warlike Life, and were at first unprepared for War, yet our Enemies may be aſsured that we are not incapable of it or defending ourselves — In behalf of the People of Pennsylvania I desire you will tell me who these Indians are that have acted so unfairly by us, and whether in this ... particular they have the Advice and Consent of the Six Nations; and I further desire you will tell me what is the Reason of their becoming our Enemies, and whether they have any just Cause of Complaint against us;

for they have never complained to us of any Injury.
Gave a Belt.

Brethren,

In this critical State of our Affairs I do in the Name and Behalf of the Province desire your Advice and Aſsistance, in what manner we may best put a Stop to the Ravages of our Enemies; and as it may be --- neceſsary to send Meſsages to several Tribes of Indians in Alliance with us, and it is dangerous to send our own People, I must desire some of you will undertake to carry such Meſsages, as there may be thought Occasion to send.
Gave a Belt.

At a Council held at Carlisle Friday the 16th. January 1756.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.
James Hamilton   William Logan Esquires
Joseph Fox Esquire Commiſsioner

The Belt
Seneca George
Newcastle
Jagrea
Silver Heels
Isaac and
Others
} Indians

Conrad Weiser
George Croghan
} Interpreters

The Belt, after reciting the Substance of what was said yesterday by the Governor upon the first Belt, delivered himself as follows,

Brethren,

When the Indians of the Six Nations living on the Ohio were first informed of the French Designs to take Poſseſsion of Lands upon that River, they resolved, in Conjunction with the Shawonese and Delawares and other their Allies, to hinder them from doing it, and sent the late Half King to the French Commander, then on his March with a Body of Men for that Purpose, to forbid him to proceed and to require him to return home to Canada; that the Half King and Others with him, pursuant to that Resolution, met the French Commander and forbad him accordingly; he paid no Regard to their Prohibition but moved on, which led them to enquire into the Cause of that their Boldneſs and Presumption in taking Poſseſsion of a Country belonging to the Six Nations, not only without their Leave, but contrary to their expreſs and solemn Prohibition by the Half King; and they then first learnt that the French had prevailed upon the Shawonese, who were a Nation in Alliance with the Six Nations, and living by their Sufferance upon a Part of their Country, and upon the Delawares, who were a Tribe conquered by and intirely dependent upon them, to enter into a separate and private Treaty with them, by which they the Shawonese and Delawares had agreed not only to permit the French to take Poſseſsion of the Country upon the Ohio, as far as they would; but to aſsist them against the English, if their Aid should be found neceſsary in the Contest which the taking Poſseſsion of that Country should occasion.

That in consequence of this secret Treaty, and upon the Persuasions of the French, who have acquired a considerable Influence over those Two Tribes, they had fallen upon the English, and done the Mischiefs complained of without any just Reason or Cause that they knew of or ever heard- That the Shawonese indeed pretend, that the Imprisonment of some of their Chiefs in South Carolina is the Cause of their Conduct; but we look upon that as a meer Pretence, as those Chiefs were released upon the Application of the Government of Pennsylvania, and by them returnd in Safety to their native Country.

Gave a Belt.

Brethren,

In answer to that Part of your Speech desiring our Advice upon the present critical State of your Affairs, we can only say, that we are ready and willing to give you our best Advice and Aſsistance; but as you have sent Meſsages to the Six Nations in their great Council, we think it more prudent to wait their Return, that we may know their Resolutions; and this we are the rather inclined to, as we ourselves, by your Meſsengers Scarrooyady and Montour, sent a Meſsage of our own to enforce yours, and giving thereby our Sentiments to the United Council- And we would not have you uneasy at not receiving an Answer, for the Season of the Year is bad, and the Members of the great Council live remote from each other, and require Time to get together.

The Belt then spoke as a Warrior.

Brethren,

We are sorry our Number is not greater; but few as we are, we are all Warriors, and at your Service whenever you call upon us- We esteem the Blood that has been shed in this Country as running from our own Veins, and as the French are the Cause of it we esteem them our Enemies, and shall whenever you think proper severely revenge it upon them- The coming Spring may furnish you and us with a favourable Opportunity, when we shall gladly join and aſsist you against them.

At a Council held at Carlisle Saturday the 17th: January 1756.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

James Hamilton William Logan Esquires

Joseph Fox Esquire Commiſsioner

The Belt Seneca George Silver Heels Newcastle	David Jagrea Isaac	Indians	Conrad Weiser George Croghan	Interpreters

The old Belt addreſsing himself to the Governor and People of Pennsylvania, in behalf of themselves and the Government of Virginia, and holding a Stick with an Indian Scalp and two Belts of Black Wampum tied at the End of it, said

Brethren,

We now by this Belt of Wampum put you in mind of your Meſsage of Condolance sent to us on the Death of Tanachariſson (the Half King) and as he was accounted by us a Ruler both amongst the Warriors as well as in Civil Matters, you said right that his Death had greatly affected us all. We take your Meſsage of Condolance very kind, and return you our Thanks for the Regard you have shewn us in sending us that Meſsage. And as his Death was occasioned by our Enemy the French driving him from the Lands he was settled on near the Ohio, we sent out some of our Warriors at two different Times to revenge ourselves on them, either by taking some Prisoners or Scalps on his Account; but by some Accident they were disappointed going thro their Journey. Yet we have by your Aſsistance fortunately taken one of those Indian Enemies nearer home, and now inform you, that we think it very proper your Meſsage of Condolance for our Brother's Death should be sent by you, by way of New York, over the Mohocks Country to the Six United Nations and to their several Towns; and we have agreed to join with you in this Meſsage and to send this Scalp (lately taken from our Enemy who as we have mentioned was the Occasion of this our Friend's Death) and in order to confirm our said Meſsage have joined with your Belt another of our own in order to comfort and ease the Hearts of the Indians of the Six Nations, and to let them know that our said Brothers' Death did not paſs unnoticed or was forgotten by us.

Then he delivered to the Governor the Belts and said Scalp tied together, and proceeded,

Brethren,

As we cannot tell how far our Enemy (Onontio's Children) may incline to extend their Claim to the Lands in these Parts, we desire you would immediately take Poſseſsion and build a Fort at Shamokin, least they, who are a cunning designing People, should take Poſseſsion before you & prevent you; and we desire also that you would place some proper Person to live always there to manage Indian Affairs (mentioning Conrad Weiser or in case of his Refusal some other proper Person) that we may have him to advise with in all difficult Matters, and that this may be a Place of Refuge in times of Distreſs for us with our Wives and Children to fly to for our Safety, and be also a Security for you, and prevent their taking these Lands to themselves.

The Belt then acquainted the Governor, that, as they had been at a Loſs for some proper House to come to when they came among the Inhabitants, they had agreed among themselves for the future to make use of William Blythes in this Town, and had now brought him into Council with them, and requested the Governor would consent to it, and that William Blythe might take upon him (the Indian) Jagrea's Name, in order to direct any of their Brethren the Indians at their several Towns whose House to enquire for when they came to see their Brethren of Pennsylvania; and as we may want on some Occasions to send you a Meſsage from the Indian Country, and we having adopted Thomas Græme, who is now among us, as a Warrior, we now inform you that we have given him the Name Hosshowweyha (Newcastle's Indian Name) and Newcastle we call Ahtlnoyis for the future, and Jagrea Sataskarayis, and to confirm this We Give a String of Wampum.

The Governor then acquainted the Belt and the other Indians, that he joined with them in sending the Message of Condolance to the Six United Nations of Indians, and in their manner of doing it, and should very soon forward it, by way of New York, to their several Towns—And should also, at their Request, make immediate Provision for the building a strong House at Shamokin, and that he should desire and depend on their Assistance in guarding the Men he should send on that Account from any Attacks of any of our Enemy Indians.

The Governor likewise informed the Indians, that he approved their Choice of Blythe's House, and their exchanging his Name for Jagrea's, and their Choice of Thomas Graeme, and the Exchange of his Name with Hosshorweyha.

And then the Governor acquainted them, that, in behalf of their Brethren of Pennsylvania, he had provided a Present for them in these distressing Times, which he had ordered to be delivered to them, and it was delivered accordingly.

There is in files a meeting at Carlisle on the 19th which does not appear here — & also one at [illegible] in the 22d

22d according to the files —

At a Council held at Lancaster Friday the 23d. January 1756.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.
James Hamilton Richard Peters Esquires
Joseph Fox Esquire Commissioner
The Connestogoe Indians.

The Connestogoe Indians having remained peaceable in their Town on the Manor of Connestogoe, and received a Support from the Publick since the first Attack of the Indians on this Province, it was thought adviseable to send for them, and give them Assurances of a future Support, and a small Present as a Testimony of the Regards of the Government for them. They were therefore sent for, and when seated, the Governor made the following Speech to them.

Brethren

I sent for you that I might have the Satisfaction to see you and take you by the Hand, which I have not had an Opportunity to do since I came to the Government.

I have the Pleasure to observe by the several Papers you have produced to me, that a firm Peace and kind Intercourse have always subsisted between the Indians of Connestogoe and the good People of this Province.

Until very lately this Province has enjoyed a perfect Peace and Tranquility with all the Indians, nor did we in the least imagine that it would ever be otherwise, having on all Occasions behaved towards them with the sincerest Affection, and assisted them whenever they wanted our good Offices.

Some of them however, thro' the Instigation of their and our common Enemy the French, have, in Breach of their Treaties, against the Ties of Gratitude and without the least Cause of Offence given on our side, fallen upon our peaceable Inhabitants; and as soon as this happened, the Government, ever careful to preserve inviolable their Engagements gave you Notice of it, and at the same time sent their Orders to your good Friend and Neighbour Mr. James Wright to supply you with Cloathing and Provisions, that you might not be exposed to Danger by going to hunt at a distance from your Habitations.

In further Token of our sincere Regards for you, I do, on behalf of the Inhabitants of this Province ratify and conform the several Treaties of Peace, Amity and Friendship subsisting between us, and expect you will do the same on your Part.

A Belt.

I expect you will not leave your Place of Residence without first acquainting me with your Intentions, and the Place where you propose to remove to.

A String.

I expect further, that, in Virtue of your Leagues with us, you will not harbour any strange Indians. You may be aſsured all such have bad Designs, and therefore I must insist upon it, if any strange Indians shall presume to come amongst you, that you instantly give notice thereof to Mr. James Wright, or some of the Magistrates of this County, that they may be apprehended and examined. And if in any way whatever any thing comes to your Knowledge that can do hurt to us, that you would make us acquainted with it with all poſsible Dispatch.

A String

It will be agreeable to me to render you perfectly easy and well satisfied; if there be therefore any thing on your Minds that you want to complain of, I beseech you not to suppreſs it, but open all your Hearts to us, and I promise to give you entire Satisfaction.

A String.

The Indians took some time to consider the Governor's Speech to them, and then made the following Reply.

Brother the Governor, and the Gentlemen with him,

We most heartily thank you for your Kindneſs in coming to Lancaster, and sending for and speaking to us in so obliging a manner.

We have heard a great Noise all about us, and expected we should have been killed, but now that we see you here we are revived and will lay aside our Fears.

I am lame and infirm, or I would have waited on the Governor at Philadelphia, as soon as I heard of his Arrival. I thank you Brother for giving yourself the Trouble to come here.

You see Brother that the Connestogoe Indians, formerly a large Tribe, are reduced to these few, and that there is never an old Man among them but myself, and I must die soon. I put them under your Protection, they are all young and some meer Children, and will want your Advice and Countenance.

You may be aſsured if any strange Indians come amongus, we shall give you the earliest Notice, and that we shall not hearken to anything that shall be said to your Prejudice. You see by our Papers that we have always been your fast Friends, and so shall continue whilst we have a Being; and by this Belt I, on the behalf of myself and all the Connestogoe Indians, do ratify confirm and renew the Treaties of Friendship subsisting between us; and again repeat my Thanks to you, for giving me this Opportunity, by coming to Lancaster, as I am not able to come to you at Philadelphia A Belt.

The Governor then said, he would order them some Goods as a Token of his Affection for them, and accordingly they were delivered to the Indians.

The following Letter from Sir Charles Hardy to the Governor was read, considered and ordered to be entered.

Fort George. New York the 12th: Jany 1756.

Sir

Colonel Johnson has shewn me a Letter of last month from a Smith settled among the Senecas, wrote to him at the Request of the principal Sachems of that Castle, complaining that Eight of their People were going to the Southward to War, that in their Way they met at Canawaja in your Province with several white Men, who invited them into a House, and treated them with Victuals and Drink, and after this and a good deal other civil Usage the White Men fell upon them, killed and scalped three, took one Prisoner, and the other four escaped to their Homes where they have made this Complaint. I judged it adviseable to give you this Intelligence, as it is very probable the whole Tribe of the Senecas, may, if not satisfied in this particular, revenge themselves.

I have talked with Johnson, he advises your desiring him to take proper Measures with them upon it, to authorise him to satisfy them, in the best and cheapest Manner he can, as he is doubtful but it may for want of proper Notice from you, cause such an Uneasineſs and Confusion in their Castle, and perhaps others, as may render it very difficult for him to pacify. Any thing you may incline to send him I will forward. I am

Sir

Your most obedt.
and humble Servt.

Chas. Hardy

The Honble. Robert Hunter Morris.

The Council advised the Governor to write an Answer to Sir Charles Hardy, and in it to inclose a Letter to Colo. Johnson, setting forth that no such Murders have been heard of; that Conewago is not in the Warriors Path but in the interior Parts of the Province, where Warriors never come; that a Copy of Sir Charles's Letter is sent to the Interpreter, with Orders to enquire into the Fact; that it appears to be without Foundation, and a Story formed to cover some bad Designs that some of the Senecas may have against the Inhabitants of this Province.

And further, that a Copy of the Indian Minutes at Carlisle & Conestogoe be sent to Col. Johnson along with the Scalp and Strings deliver'd by the Indians.

The Governor informed the Council, that he had issued Writs for summoning the Assembly to meet on Tuesday the Third of February next.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Friday the 30th January 1756.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell	Benjamin Shoemaker	Esquires
Lynford Lardner	Richard Peters	
Benjamin Chew	John Mifflin	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Council took into Consideration Governor Shirley's Request, that the Governor would please to issue a Commission to some Persons of Probity and Judgment to hear and settle the Accounts of the Waggoners and Horses hired at the Instance of the late General Braddock for the Use of the Army; and the Council recommended Edward Shippen, Samuel Morris, Samuel McCall Junior, and William Lake Esquires, or any three of them, to be a Committee for settling the Waggon Accounts, and a Commission issued to them accordingly.

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MINUTES OF THE PROVINCIAL COUNCIL OF PENNSYLVANIA.

"At a Council held at Carlisle, Thursday the 15th January, 1756.

"PRESENT:

"The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

"James Hamilton, William Logan, Esquires.

"Joseph Fox, Esquire, Commissioner.

"The Belt, Newcastle,
"Silver Heels, Seneca George, } Indians.
"Jagrea, Isaac & Others,

"*Interpreters:*
"Conrad Weiser,
"George Croghan.

"The Indians having taken their Seats the Governor spoke as follows:

"'Brethren—

"'I came to this Part of the Province and brought with me some of the wise and governing Part of the People of Pennsylvania, with Intention to hold a Treaty with the Indians that were yet our Friends, and for that purpose sent Messages to the several Branches of Sasquehannah to invite them to meet me at Harris' Ferry, but from the Confusions that attend the present Times, I have reason to believe that the Messengers I have employed have not been able to go to all our Friends upon that River, so that the number of Indians now met is not so large as it would otherwise have been; however, you that are come I esteem our Hearty Friends, and thank you for meeting us here, which I take the kinder, considering the Dangers that at present attend those who are our real Friends. And in the first Place, you will permit me to thank you for the kind Expressions of Condolence which the Old Belt, in your behalf, made me at Harris' in my way to this Town, upon the Losses we had sustain'd and the Blood that was shed by our Indian Enemies, which he was pleased to say was a common Loss and affected you as well as us, thereby signifying that we were one People and our Cause the same; And you will allow me by this String to wipe the Dust from your Eyes and Ears, and to desire that what I shall now say to you in behalf of the People of Pennsylvania may be heard with Attention and make a proper Impression on your minds.'

"Gave a String.

"'Brethren:

"'You very well know, and your Ancestors must have informed you, of the Antient Friendship that has subsisted between the People of this Province and the several Tribes and Nations of Indians, as well those of the Six United Nations as others in their Alliance, from the Time that William Penn first landed in this Country till within these few Months.

"'This Friendship has ever been sacred on our Parts, and we cannot accuse ourselves of having violated any Treaties that ever subsisted between us, but on the contrary have at all Times and upon all Occasions given Marks of our Love and Affection for our Indian Allies. You cannot be Strangers, Brethren, of the manner in which we have lately been treated by some that not many months before gave us the strongest Assurances of their Fidelity, and of their own Accord renewed the former Friendship subsisting between them and us.

"'They have in the most cruel and barbarous manner fallen upon our peaceable Inhabitants, living quietly under the Faith of those Treaties that subsisted between us, and slaughtered them without Distinction of Age or Sex. Such a Treatment is what we least expected, and having settled in Peace were not prepared to resist such an Attack. But tho' we have been unused to a Warlike Life and were at first unprepared for War, yet our Enemies may be assured that we are not incapable of it, or defending ourselves. In behalf of the People of Pennsylvania, I desire you will tell me who these Indians are that have acted so unfairly by us, and whether, in this particular, they have the Advice and Consent of the Six Nations; and I further desire you will tell me what is the Reason of their becoming our Enemies, and whether they have any just Cause of Complaint against us, for they never complained to us of any Injury.'

"Gave a Belt.

"'Brethren:

"'In this critical State of our affairs, I do in the Name and Behalf of the Province, desire your Advice and Assistance, in what manner we may best put a Stop to the Ravages of our Enemies;

and as it may be necessary to send Messages to several Tribes of Indians in Alliance with us, and it is dangerous to send our own People, I must desire some of you will undertake to carry such Messages, as there may be thought Occasion to send.’

“Gave a Belt.”

—

“At a Council held at Carlisle, Friday the 16th January, 1756.

“PRESENT:

“The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

“James Hamilton,
“William Logan, } Esquires.

“Joseph Fox, Esquire, Commissioner.

“The Belt,
“Seneca George,
“Newcastle,
“Jagrea,
“Silver Heels,
“Isaac and
“Others, } Indians.

“Conrad Weiser,
“George Croghan, } Interpreters.

“The Belt after reciting the Substance of what was said yesterday by the Governor, upon the first Belt, delivered himself as follows:

“‘When the Indians of the Six Nations, living on the Ohio were first informed of the French Designs to take Possession of Lands upon that River, they resolved, in Conjunction with the Shawonese and Delawares, and other their Allies, to hinder them from doing it, and sent the late Half King to the French Commander then on his march, with a Body of Men for that Purpose, to forbid him to proceed and to require him to return home to Canada; that the Half King and others with him, persuant to that Resolution, met the French Commander and forbade him accordingly; he paid no Regard to their Prohibition but moved on, which led them to enquire into the Cause of that, their Boldness and Presumption in taking Possession of a Country belonging to the Six Nations, not only without their Leave, but contrary to their express and solemn Prohibition by the Half King; and they then first learnt that the French had prevailed upon the Shawonese, who were a Nation in Alliance with the Six Nations, and living by their Sufferance upon a Part of their Country, and upon the Delawares, who were a tribe conquered by and entirely dependent upon them, to enter into a separate and private Treaty with them, by which they, the Shawonese and Delawares, had agreed not only to permit the French to take Possession of the Country upon the Ohio, as far as they would, but to assist them against the English, if their Aid should be found necessary in the Contest, which the taking Possession of that Country should occasion.

"'That in consequence of this secret Treaty, and upon the Persuasions of the French, who have acquired a considerable Influence over those Two Tribes, they had fallen upon the English and done the Mischiefs complained of without any just Reason or Cause that they knew of or ever heard. That the Shawonese indeed pretend that the Imprisonment of some of their Chiefs in South Carolina is the Cause of their Conduct; but we look upon that as a mere Pretence, as those Chiefs were released upon the Application of the Government of Pennsylvania, and by them return'd in Safety to their native country.'

"Gave a Belt.

"'Brethren:

"'In answer to that Part of your Speech desiring our Advice upon the present critical State of your affairs, we can only say that we are ready and willing to give you our best Advice and Assistance, but as you have sent Messages, to the Six Nations in their great Council, we think it very prudent to wait their Return that we may know their Resolutions, and this we are the rather inclined to as we ourselves, by your Messengers Scarrooyady and Montour, sent a Message of our own to enforce yours, and giving thereby our Sentiments to the United Council; and we would not have you uneasy at not receiving an Answer, for the Season of the Year is bad and the Members of the great Council live remote from each other, and require Time to get together.'

"The Belt then spoke as a Warrior.

"'Brethren:

"'We are sorry our Number is not greater, but few as we are we are all Warriors and at your Service whenever you call upon us. We esteem the Blood that has been shed in this Country as running from our own Veins, and as the French are the Cause of it, we esteem our Enemies, and shall, whenever you think proper, severely revenge it upon them. The coming Spring shall furnish you and us with a favourable Opportunity, when we shall gladly join and assist You against them.'"

"At a Council held at Carlisle, Saturday the 17th January, 1756,

"PRESENT:

"The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

"James Hamilton, } Esquires.
"William Logan, }

"Joseph Fox, Esquire, Commissioner.

"The Belt, David, }
"Seneca George, Jagrea, } Indians.
"Silver Heels, Isaac, }
"Newcastle, }

"Conrad Weiser, } Interpreters.
"George Croghan, }

The Old Belt addressing himself to the Governor and People of Pennsylvania, in behalf of themselves and the Government of Virginia, and holding a Stick with an Indian Scalp and two Belts of Black Wampum tied at the End of it, said:

"'Brethren—

"'We now by this Belt of Wampum put you in mind of your Message of Condolence sent to us on the Death of Tanacharrison (the Half King), and as he was accounted by us a Ruler both amongst the Warriors as well as in Civil matters, you said Right that his Death had greatly affected us all. We take your Message of Condolence very kind, and return you our Thanks for the Regard you have shewn us in sending us that Message. And as his Death was occasioned by our Enemy, the French driving him from the Lands he was settled on near the Ohio, we sent out some of our Warriors at two different Times to revenge ourselves on them either by taking some Prisoners or Scalps on his Account; but by some Accident they were disappointed going thro' their Journey. Yet we have by your assistance, fortunately taken one of these Indian Enemies nearer home, and now inform you that we think it very proper your Message of Condolence for our Brother's Death should be sent by you, by way of New York, over the Mohock's Country to the Six United Nations and to their several Towns; and we have agreed to join with you in this Message and to send this Scalp (lately taken from our Enemy who as we have mentioned was the occasion of this, our Friend's Death), and in order to confirm our said Message have joined with your Belt, another of our own, in order to comfort and ease the Hearts of the Indians of the Six Nations, and to let them know that our said Brother's Death did not pass unnoticed, or was forgotten by us.'

"Then he delivered to the Governor the Belts and said Scalps tied together, and proceeded :

"'Brethren—

"'As we cannot tell how far our Enemy (Onontio's Children) may incline to enter their Claim to the Lands in these Parts, we desire you would immediately take possession and build a Fort at Shamokin, least they, who are a cunning, designing People, should take Possession before you & prevent you, and we desire also that you would place some proper Person to live always there to manage Indian Affairs (mentioning Conrad Weiser, or in case of his Refusal some other proper Person), that we may have him to advise with in all difficult Matters, and that this may be a place of Refuge in Times of Distress for us with our Wives and Children to fly to for our Safety, and be also a Security for you, and prevent their taking these Lands to themselves.'

"The Belt then acquainted the Governor, 'that as they had been at a Loss for some proper House to come to when they came among the Inhabitants, they had agreed among themselves, for the future, to make use of William Blythe's in this Town, and had now brought him into Council with them and requested the Governor would consent to it, and that William Blythe might take upon him (the Indian) Jagrea's name, in order to direct any of their Brethren, the Indians at their several Towns, whose House to enquire for when they come to see their Brethren of Pennsylvania; and as we may want on some Occasions to send you a Message from the Indian Country, and we having adopted Thomas Grœme, who is now among us, as a Warrior, we now inform you that we have given him the name Kos Showweyha (Newcastle's Indian name), and Newcastle we call Ah Knoyis, for the future, and Jagrea, Sata Karoyis, and to confirm this We Give a String of Wampum.'

"The Governor then acquainted the Belt and the other Indians that he joined with them in sending the Message of Condolence to the Six United Nations of Indians, and in their manner of doing it, and should very soon forward it by way of New York to their several Towns, and should also at their Request make immediate Provision for the building a strong House at Shamokin, and that he should desire and depend on their Assistance in guarding the Men he should send on that Account from any Attacks of any of our Enemy Indians.

"The Governor likewise informed the Indians that he approved their Choice of Blythe's House, and their exchanging his Name for Jagrea's, and their Choice of Thomas Grœme, and the Exchanging of his Name with Kos Showeyha.

"And then the Governor acquainted them that in behalf of their Brethren of Pennsylvania, he had provided a Present for them in these distressing Times, which he had ordered to be delivered to them, and it was delivered accordingly."

—

"At a Council held at Lancaster, Friday the 23rd January, 1756.

"PRESENT:

"The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

"James Hamilton, Richard Peters, Esquires.

"Joseph Fox, Esquire, Commissioner.

"The Connestogoe Indians.

"The Connestogoe Indians having remained peacable in their Town on the Manor of Connestogoe and received a Support from the Publick since the first Attacks of the Indians on this Province, it was thought advisable to send for them and give them Assurances of a future Support and a small Present as a Testimony of the Regards of the Government for them. They were therefore sent for, and when seated the Governor made the following speech to them:

"'Brethren—

"'I sent for you that I might have the Satisfaction to see you and take you by the Hand, which I have not had an Opportunity to do since I came to the Government.

"'I have the Pleasure to observe by the several Papers you have produced to me that a firm Peace and kind Intercourse have always subsisted between the Indians of Connestogoe and the good People of this Province.

"'Until lately this Province has enjoyed a perfect Peace and Tranquility with all the Indians, nor did we in the least imagine that it would ever be otherwise, having on all Occasions behaved towards them with the sincerest Affection, and assisted them whenever they wanted our good Offices.

"'Some of them, however, thro' the Instigation of their and our common Enemy, the French, have, in Breach of their Treaties against the Ties of Gratitude, and without the least Cause of Offence given on our side, fallen upon our peacable Inhabitants, and as soon as this happened the Government, ever careful to preserve inviolable their Engagements, gave you Notice of it, and at the same time sent their Orders to your good Friend and Neighbour, Mr. James Wright, to supply you with Cloathing and Provisions, that you might not be exposed to Danger by going to hunt at a distance from your Habitations.

"'In further Token of our sincere Regards for you, I do, on behalf of the Inhabitants of this Province, ratify and confirm the several

Treaties of Peace, Amity, and Friendship subsisting between us, and expect you will do the same on your Part.'

"A Belt.

"'I expect you will not leave your Place of Residence without first acquainting me with your Intentions and the Place where you propose to remove to.'

"A String.

"'I expect, further, that in Virtue of your Leagues with us, you will not harbour any strange Indians. You may be assured all such have bad Designs, and therefore I must insist upon it if any strange Indians shall presume to come amongst you that you instantly give notice thereof to Mr. James Wright, or some of the Magistrates of this County, that they may be apprehended and examined. And if in any way whatever any thing comes to your Knowledge that can do hurt to us, that you would make us acquainted with it with all possible Dispatch.'

"A String.

"'It will be agreeable to me to render you perfectly easy and well satisfied; if there be, therefore, anything on your Minds that you want to complain of I beseech you not to suppress it, but open all your Hearts to us and I promise to give you entire satisfaction.'

"A String.

"The Indians took some time to consider the Governor's Speech to them, and then made the following Reply:

"'Brother the Governor and the Gentlemen with him:

"'We most heartily thank you for your Kindness in coming to Lancaster, and sending for and speaking to us in so obliging a manner.

"'We have heard a great Noise all about us and expected we should have been killed, but now that we see you here, we are revived and will lay aside our Fears.

"'I am lame and infirm, or I would have waited on the Governor at Philadelphia as soon as I heard of his Arrival. I thank you, Brother, for giving yourself the Trouble to come here.

"'You see, Brother, that the Connestogoe Indians, formerly a large Tribe, are reduced to these few, and that there is never an old man among them but myself, and I must die soon. I put them under your Protection; they are all young and some meer Children and will want your Advice and Countenance.

"'You may be assured if any strange Indians come amongst us, we shall give you the earliest Notice, and that we shall not hearken to any thing that shall be said to your Prejudice. You see by our Papers that we have always been your fast Friends, and so shall continue whilst we have a Being; and by this Belt I on the behalf of myself and all the Connestogoe Indians do ratify, confirm, and renew the Treaties of Friendship subsisting between us, and again repeat my Thanks to you for giving me this Opportunity by coming to Lancaster, as I am not able to come to you at Philadelphia.'

"A Belt.

"The Governor then said he would order them some Goods as a Token of his Affection for them, and accordingly they were delivered to the Indians."

—

The following Letter from Sir Charles Hardy to the Governor was read, considered, and ordered to be enter'd:

"Fort George, New York, the 12th Jan$^{r.}$, 1756.

"Sir:

"Colonel Johnson has shewn me a Letter of last Month from a Smith settled among the Senecas, wrote to him at the Request of the principal Sachems of that Castle, complaining that Eight of their People were going to the Southward to War, that in their Way they met at Canawaja, in your Province, with several White Men, who invited them into a House and treated them with Victuals and Drink, and after this and a good deal other civil Usage the White Men fell upon them, killed and scalped three, took one Prisoner, and the other four escaped to their Homes, where they have made this Complaint. I judged it adviseable to give you this Intelligence, as it is very probable the whole Tribe of the Senecas may, if not satisfied in this particular, revenge themselves.

"I have talked with Johnson; he advises your desiring him to take proper Measures with them upon it to authorize him to satisfy them in the best and cheapest manner he can, as he is doubtful but it may for want of proper Notice from you cause such an Uneasiness and Confusion in their Castle, and perhaps others, as may render it very difficult for him to pacify. Any thing you may incline to send him I will forward. I am,

"Sir, Your most obed$^{t.}$ and humble Serv$^{t.}$,

"CHA$^{s.}$ HARDY.

"The Honble. Robert Hunter Morris."

The Council advised the Governor to write an Answer to Sir Charles Hardy, and in it to inclose a Letter to Col$^{l.}$ Johnson, setting forth that no such Murders have been heard of, that Conewago is not in the Warriors' Path, but in the Interior Parts of the Province where Warriors never come, that a copy of Sir Charles' Letter is sent to the Interpreter with Orders to enquire into the Fact; but it appears to be without Foundation, and a Story formed to cover some bad Designs that some of the Senecas may have against the Inhabitants of this Province, And further, that a Copy of the Indian Minutes at Carlisle & Conestogoe be sent Col. Johnson along with the Scalp and Strings delivered by the Indians.

The Governor informed the Council that he had issued Writts for summoning the Assembly to meet on Tuesday the 3d of February next.

Pennsylvania. 1756.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Monday February 2d. 1756.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell
Richard Peters
Benjamin Chew } Esquires

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor laid before the Board his Answer to Governor Hardy in these Words.

Philadelphia February 2d. 1756.

Sir

I returned to this Place on Wednesday last from a Month's Tour I made into the Frontier Counties, in order to put them into a Posture of Defence, and to form a Chain of Forts and Block houses all along the Kittatinny Hills from Delaware to the Maryland Line near the River Potomack; and the Necessity I was under of setting off immediately upon my Return from New York prevented me from making my Acknowledgments to you for the Civilities I received while there.

I found here your Favour of the 12th. January relating to the Complaint of the Senecas which I immediately laid before the Council, and made all the Enquiry I could concerning the Fact; but cannot find that any thing of the kind has ever happened in the Memory of any of the Persons concern'd in the Publick Affairs of this Province; I am therefore apprehensive that it is a Story made by some of the disaffected of that Tribe to cover or excuse some Injury done or intended against the Inhabitants of this Province. What induces me the more to believe it to be a Story without Foundation is that the Place assigned for the Transaction is far within the Settlements of this Province, out of any Road that is used by Warriors, and, had it happened, must have been known; However, I have sent to the Provincial Interpreter to be informed if he knows or ever heard of such an Affair, and directed him to enquire of the Indians living in this Province (many of whom are Senecas) whether such a Transaction ever came to their Knowledge, and who were the Persons concerned in it; and if that or any thing of the kind appears to have been done, I shall do all in my Power to give the Senecas full Satisfaction.

I am extreamly obliged to you for communicating this Matter, and hope Col. Johnson, to whom I shall send upon the Subject, will set the Matter in a proper Light, and prevent the Senecas from taking any rash Measures till the Affair can fully be enquired into.

In about ten days I expect the Chain of Forts and Block Houses along our extensive Frontier will be compleat, and render the Settlements within them tolerably secure; but the Expence of defending the Province in this way will be very heavy, as it has already gone near to consume the sixty thousand Pounds;

and this may poſsibly induce the Aſsembly here to come into vigorous measures for removing the War into the Enemy's Country.

My Aſsembly meets to morrow when I shall communicate to them the Plan of Operations concerted at New York, and endeavour to prevail with them to take a considerable Part in measures the Succeſs of which will redound so much to the Honour of the Provinces concerned, and render it very difficult for the French to disturb the Quiet of these Colonies hereafter; but I can as yet form no Judgment what Part they will take. I am

Sir
Your Excellency's
most obedient and most
humble Servant

Rob.t H: Morris

And then was read a Letter from the Reverend Mr. Gideon Hawley, a new England Presbyterian Miſsionary at Onoquago, inclosing a Speech from Scarrooyady and Andrew Montour, to which the Governor wrote an Answer, which follows.

A Letter to the Governor from the Reverend Mr. Gideon Hawley.

Onohquâge 4th. Jan.ry 1756

Honored Sir

This Evening Andrew Montour and Scarrooyady arrived here, and inform us, that they were sent by your Honour, to get Intelligence of the Disposition of the Indians on the River Sasquehannah— That they have the Unhappineſs to find all the Delawares who are settled at Wyoming and at and about Diahoga in the French Interest, that these (the Delawares) with a Party from Ohio, have lately done Mischief on your Frontiers; that they have captivated 26 Persons, the most of which are Women and Children; and that there are Five English Captives now at Diahoga; but they inform us, that those who are of the Five Nations, Shawonese and Mohiccons, who are interspersed among them, design early in the Spring to leave the Delawares, and remove into the Country of the Five Nations, being determined to abide by them; but perhaps it may be a Satisfaction to be informed by Scarrooyady himself.— The following is a Speech which he desired me to pen, and transmit to your Honour with all Speed— He addreſses himself to your Honour and Mr. Peters thus,

Brethren Onas and Oneratael,

The Delawares on Sasquehannah declare in plain Terms, that they shall pay no Regard to what shall be said to diſsuade them from Hostilities against the English— That they will not hear the greatest Sachem in the Country of the

Confederates - That they are determined to fight the English as long as there is a Man left; and that when they have conquered the English, they will turn their Arms against those Indians who will not join with them now.

I am arrived here and now feel safe and easy; but 'tis with much Difficulty that I have come thro' the Settlement of the Delawares. I have but just escaped with Life. When I return I shall go by the Way of Albany; for there is no going back by the Way I came. You may expect to hear from us again by the next Opportunity. We design to go forward quite into the Country of the Five Nations, and perhaps, as there is soon to be a meeting of the Confederates, we shall go on as far as Onondago. We shall not return till we can bring you the best Intelligence of the Situation of Affairs in these Parts.

I advise you to lay still and not come against your Enemies this Way till you have further Intelligence; but you'll guard your Frontiers well and keep Scouts out constantly. You may rely upon it that none but Enemy Indians will come upon your Frontiers - Those who design to be at Peace with the English will either remove this way immediately, or keep at home - Early in the Spring the Shawonese and Mohiccons and all that abide by the Six Nations will come this Way.

I would inform you that now I am arrived here at Onoquagas, and my Brethren here inform me that our Nephews (the Delawares) who live near the Minisinks on the River Delaware, a few Days ago told their Uncles (the Five Nations) that they would not join with their Brethren against the English, but would live and die with the Five Nations. This is all at present from -

Scarrooyady

The Wampum inclosed was presented by Scarrooyady when he concluded his Speech - 'Tis much for the British Interest that Montour and Scarrooyady came this Way in the present Conjuncture.

I am your Honours
most humble Servant
Gid: Hawley

P.S.

There is here a very ingenious Gunsmith who has for more than a twelve month past worked at his Trade here constantly. Perhaps it might be well for the publick to encourage him to continue in his Business here. I would inform your Honour, that the two Families of white People who live here are obliged to be at much Expence in feeding the Indians who run away from this and other Parts to the Southward, for fear of the French and their Indians. Perhaps if the Publick were sensible how much we are obliged to expend in Acts of Kindness they would allow us some small Consideration. I am

Your Honour's &c.
Gid: Hawley

To the Hon^{ble} Robert Hunter Morris Esq^{r}
Lieu^{t} Gov^{r} &c. of his Majestys Province of
Pennsylvania &c.

This morning Scarrooyady desires me to inform your Honour that the Five Nations have lately called the Delawares to treat with them at Onondago, and that if they will not repent of the Mischief which they have done in falling upon the English, and make up the Matter and be peaceable, the Five Nations will immediately cut them off. He says they will speak but once to them. - Montour informs me, that if the Delawares had known their Busineſs to the Five Nations, Scarrooyady and he had never come thro their Settlements - He says he should have given your Honour Intelligence of the Situation of Affairs on this River, had it been practicable. But no friendly Indians dare venture upon your Frontiers for fear of being treated as Enemies - I would give your Honour a Narrative of Facts relating to the Delawares and of their Meſsages to the Five Nations since the last Week in October last; was I not in the utmost Confusion; being upon the Wing to Boston, expecting to set off this morning - As my Busineſs at present is here, and as I have some Acquaintance with the Indians in these Parts, and can use the Language of the Five Nations pretty well, I may poſsibly have it in my Power to serve the Interest of your Province, which I shall be proud to do. I am

Your Honour's
most humble Servant
Ged: Hawley

January 5th: 1756

To the Hon^{ble} Rob^{t} Morris Esq^{r} &c^{a}

The Governor likewise wrote to Governor Sharpe on this Occasion the following Letter.

Sir,

I have the Pleasure to acquaint you that I have received a Letter from Scarroyady dated the Fourth of January at Oneoquago, an Indian Town situate on the Head Branches of the Sasquehannah, in which he informs me that he and Montour were got safe there, tho not without abundance of Danger. That the Delawares were obstinately bent on the Destruction of the English, and say they will pay no Regard to the Interposition of the Six Nations, tho they should send to them their greatest Sachems. He advises me to put the Province into a Posture of Defence, but not to act offensively till I should hear further from him, and be made acquainted with the Determinations of the Six Nations, who he hears were convened by Col. Johnson; and that he proposed to be at the general Convention, and there represent the Conduct of the Delawares and Shawonese, and he hopes with Success, as he had heard that the Six Nations disapproved of the Hostilities, and would resent it. By this Journey He and Mr. Montour have demonstrated that they are our true Friends, and as such will deserve our best Encouragements. Mr. Clause, a young Man who has for some time past lived in the upper Mohock Castle, and is said to understand the Indian Language attends the Treaty which was appointed to be on the Twenty Second of January, and which I hope is now holding at Col. Johnsons on the Part of Pennsylvania, and will hasten to this City as soon as it shall be ended. As soon as I know the Result I will impart it to you.

Two of the Neutrals, one imported at New York and the other here, hav obtained my Leave to go to Annapolis in quest of their Families, who they think are in some of the Ships which have arrived in your Province. If they light of them, or any of their Wives and Children belonging to the Men imported here, I desire the Favour of you to suffer as many to come to their Friends here, as these Two will undertake to conduct and defray the Charge of their Journey. I do not mean to put you or myself to any Expence for their Removal; But if Joseph Muncer and Simon Leblanc, who are recommended to me as good and worthy People, and who have been in the Service of his Majesty, will bring any here at their own Expence, I desire they may be indulged to do it. I am

Sir
Your most humble Servant
Robt. H. Morris

Then were read Two Letters from Mr. Franklin which follow in these Words

Fort Allen, at Gnadenhutten Jan: 25: 1756.

Dear Sir,

We got to Hays's the same Evening we left you and reviewed Craig's Company by the Way. Much of the next morning was spent in exchanging the bad Arms for good, Wayne's Company having joined us. We reachd however that night to Uplinger's, where we got into good Quarters.

Saturday morning we began to march towards Gnadenhutten and proceeded near two miles; but it seeming to set in for a rainy day, the Men unprovided with great Coats, and many unable to secure effectually their Arms from the wet, we thought it most adviseable to face about, and return to our former Quarters, where the Men might dry themselves and lie warm; whereas had they proceeded they would have come in wet to Gnadenhutten, where Shelter and Opportunity of drying themselves that night was uncertain. In fact it raind all day and we were all pleased that we had not proceeded. — The next Day, being Sunday, we marchd thither where we arrived about 2 in the afternoon, and before 5 had inclosed our Camp with a strong Breast work, Musquet Proof, and with the Boards brought here before by my Order from Drucher's Mill, got ourselves under some Shelter from the Weather. — Monday was so dark with a thick Fog all day, that we coud neither look out for a Place to build, or see where Materials were to be had. Tuesday morning we lookd round us, pitchd on a Place, markd out our Fort on the Ground, and by 10 oClock began to cut Timber for Stockades, and to dig the Ground. By 3 in the afternoon, the Logs were all cut and many of them halled to the Spot, the Ditch dug to set them in 3 Feet deep, and that Evening many were pointed and set up. The next Day we were hindered by Rain most of the Day. Thursday we resumd our Work, and before night were pretty well enclosed, and on Friday morning the

Pennsylvania. 1756.

obtained my Leave to go to Annapolis in quest of their Families, who they think are in some of the Ships which have arrived in your Province. If they light of them, or any of their Wives and Children belonging to the Men imported here, I desire the Favour of you to suffer as many to come to their Friends here, as these Two will undertake to conduct and defray the Charge of their Journey. I do not mean to put you or myself to any Expence for their Removal; But if Joseph Muncer and Simon Leblanc, who are recommended to me as good and worthy People, and who have been in the Service of his Majesty, will bring any here at their own Expence, I desire they may be indulged to do it. I am

Sir

Your most humble Servant

Robt. H. Morris

Then were read Two Letters from Mr. Franklin which follow in these Words

Fort Allen, at Gnadenhutten Jan: 25: 1756.

Dear Sir,

We got to Hays's the same Evening we left you and reviewed Craig's Company by the Way. Much of the next morning was spent in exchanging the bad Arms for good, Wayne's Company having joined us. We reachd however that night to Uplinger's, where we got into good Quarters.

Saturday morning we began to march towards Gnadenhutten and proceeded near two miles; but it seeming to set in for a rainy day, the Men unprovided with great Coats, and many unable to secure effectually their Arms from the wet, we thought it most adviseable to face about, and return to our former Quarters, where the Men might dry themselves and lie warm; whereas had they proceeded they would have come in wet to Gnadenhutten, where Shelter and Opportunity of drying themselves that night was uncertain. In fact it raind all day and we were all pleased that we had not proceeded. — The next Day, being Sunday, we marchd hither where we arrived about 2 in the afternoon, and before 5 had inclosed our Camp with a strong Breast work, Musquet Proof, and with the Boards brought here before by my Order from Drucher's Mill, got ourselves under some Shelter from the Weather. — Monday was so dark with a thick Fog all day, that we coud neither look out for a Place to build, or see where Materials were to be had. Tuesday morning we lookd round us, pitchd on a Place, markd out our Fort on the Ground, and by 10 o Clock began to cut Timber for Stockades, and to dig the Ground. By 3 in the afternoon, the Logs were all cut and many of them halled to the Spot, the Ditch dug to set them in 3 Feet deep, and that Evening many were pointed and set up. The next Day we were hinderd by Rain most of the Day. Thursday we resumd our Work, and before night were pretty well enclosed, and on Friday morning

the

Pennsylvania. 1756.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Monday February 2d. 1756.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.
Robert Strettell
Richard Peters
Benjamin Chew } Esquires

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor laid before the Board his Answer to Governor Hardy in these Words.

Philadelphia February 2d. 1756.

Sir

I returned to this Place on Wednesday last from a Month's Tour I made into the Frontier Counties, in order to put them into a Posture of Defence, and to form a Chain of Forts and Block houses all along the Kittatinny Hills from Delaware to the Maryland Line near the River Potomack; and the Necessity I was under of setting off immediately upon my Return from New York prevented me from making my Acknowledgments to you for the Civilities I received while there.

I found here your Favour of the 12th January relating to the Complaint of the Senecas which I immediately laid before the Council, and made all the Enquiry I could concerning the Fact; but cannot find that any thing of the kind has ever happened in the Memory of any of the Persons concern'd in the Publick Affairs of this Province; I am therefore apprehensive that it is a Story made by some of the disaffected of that Tribe to cover or excuse some Injury done or intended against the Inhabitants of this Province. What induces me the more to believe it to be a Story without Foundation is that the Place assigned for the Transaction is far within the Settlements of this Province, out of any Road that is used by Warriors, and, had it happened, must have been known; However, I have sent to the Provincial Interpreter to be informed if he knows or ever heard of such an Affair, and directed him to enquire of the Indians living in this Province (many of whom are Senecas) whether such a Transaction ever came to their Knowledge, and who were the Persons concerned in it; and if that or any thing of the kind appears to have been done, I shall do all in my Power to give the Senecas full Satisfaction.

I am extreamly obliged to you for communicating this Matter, and hope Col. Johnson, to whom I shall send upon the Subject, will set the Matter in a proper Light, and prevent the Senecas from taking any rash Measures till the Affair can fully be enquired into.

In about ten days I expect the Chain of Forts and Block Houses along our extensive Frontier will be compleat, and render the Settlements within them tolerably secure; but the Expence of defending the Province in this way will be very heavy, as it has already gone near to consume the sixty thousand Pounds;

and this may poſsibly induce the Aſsembly here to come into vigorous Measures for removing the War into the Enemy's Country.

My Aſsembly meets to morrow when I shall communicate to them the Plan of Operations concerted at New York, and endeavour to prevail with them to take a considerable Part in Measures the Succeſs of which will redound so much to the Honour of the Provinces concerned, and render it very difficult for the French to disturb the Quiet of these Colonies hereafter; but I can as yet form no Judgment what Part they will take. I am

Sir
Your Excellency's
most obedient and most
humble Servant
Robt. H: Morris

And then was read a Letter from the Reverend Mr. Gideon Hawley, a new England Presbyterian Miſsionary at Onoquago, inclosing a Speech from Scarroyady and Andrew Montour, to which the Governor wrote an Answer, which follows.

A Letter to the Governor from the Reverend Mr. Gideon Hawley.

Onohquâge 4th. Janry 1756

Honored Sir

This Evening Andrew Montour and Scarrooyady arrived here, and inform us, that they were sent by your Honour, to get Intelligence of the Disposition of the Indians on the River Sasquehannah — That they have the Unhappineſs to find all the Delawares who are settled at Wyoming and at and about Diahoga in the French Interest, that these (the Delawares) with a Party from Ohio, have lately done Mischief on your Frontiers; that they have captivated 26 Persons, the most of which are Women and Children; and that there are Five English Captives now at Diahoga; but they inform us, that those who are of the Five Nations, Shawonese and Mohiccons, who are interspersed among them, design early in the Spring to leave the Delawares, and remove into the Country of the Five Nations, being determined to abide by them; but perhaps it may be a Satisfaction to be informed by Scarrooyady himself. — The following is a Speech which he desired me to pen, and transmit to your Honour with all Speed — He addreſses himself to your Honour and Mr. Peters thus,

Brethren Onas and Oneratael,

The Delawares on Sasquehannah declare in plain Terms, that they shall pay no Regard to what shall be said to diſsuade them from Hostilities against the English — That they will not hear the greatest Sachem in the Country of the ---

Confederates—That they are determined to fight the English as long as there is a Man left; and that when they have conquered the English, they will turn their Arms against those Indians who will not join with them now.

I am arrived here and now feel safe and easy; but 'tis with much Difficulty that I have come thro' the Settlement of the Delawares. I have but just escaped with Life. When I return I shall go by the Way of Albany; for there is no going back the Way I came. You may expect to hear from us again by the next Opportunity. We design to go forward quite into the Country of the Five Nations, and perhaps, as there is soon to be a meeting of the Confederates, we shall go on as far as Onondago. We shall not return till we can bring you the best Intelligence of the Situation of Affairs in these Parts.

I advise you to lay still and not come against your Enemies this Way till you have further Intelligence; but you'll guard your Frontiers well and keep Scouts out constantly. You may rely upon it that none but Enemy Indians will come upon your Frontiers—Those who design to be at Peace with the English will either remove this way immediately, or keep at home—Early in the Spring the Shawonese and Mohiccons and all that abide by the Five Nations will come this Way.

I would inform You that now I am arrived here at Onequagy, and my Brethren here inform me that our Nephews (the Delawares) who live near the Minisinks on the River Delaware, a few Days ago told their Uncles (the Five Nations) that they would not join with their Brethren against the English, but would live and die with the Five Nations. This is all at present from—

Scarrooyady

The Wampum inclosed
was presented by Scarrooyady
when he concluded his
Speech—'Tis much for the
British Interest that
Montour and Scarrooyady
came this Way in the present Conjuncture.

I am your Honours
most humble Servant
Gid: Hawley

P.S. There is here a very ingenious Gunsmith who has for more than a twelve month past worked at his Trade here constantly. Perhaps it might be well for the publick to encourage him to continue in his Business here. I would inform your Honour, that the two Families of white People who live here are obliged to be at much Expence in feeding the Indians who run away from Ohio and other Parts to the Southward, for fear of the French and their Indians—Perhaps if the Publick were sensible how much we are obliged to expend in Acts of Kindness they would allow us some small Consideration. I am

your Honour's &c.
Gid: Hawley

To the Honble Robert Hunter Morris Esqr
Lieut Govr &c. of his Majestys Province of
Pennsylvania &c.

This morning Scarrooyady desires me to inform your Honour that the Five Nations have lately called the Delawares to treat with them at Onondago, and that if they will not repent of the Mischief which they have done in falling upon the English, and make up the Matter and be peaceable, the Five Nations will immediately cut them off. He says they will speak but once to them – Montour informs me, that if the Delawares had known their Busineſs to the Five Nations, Scarrooyday and he had never come thro their Settlements – He says he should have given your Honour Intelligence of the Situation of Affairs on this River, had it been practicable. But no friendly Indians dare venture upon your Frontiers for fear of being treated as Enemies – I would give your Honour a Narrative of Facts relating to the Delaware and of their Meſsages to the Five Nations since the last Week in October last; was I not in the utmost Confusion; being upon the Wing to Boston, expecting to set off this morning – As my Busineſs at present is here, and as I have some Acquaintance with the Indians in these Parts, and can use the Language of the Five Nations pretty well, I may poſsibly have it in my Power to serve the Interest of your Province, which I shall be proud to do. I am

your Honour's
January 5th: 1756
most humble Servant
Gid: Hawley

To the Honble. Robt. Morris Esqr. &ca.

Pennsylvania. 1756.

The Governor likewise wrote to Governor Sharpe on this Occasion the following Letter.

Sir,

I have the Pleasure to acquaint you that I have received a Letter from Scarroyady dated the Fourth of January at Oneoquago, an Indian Town situate on the Head Branches of the Sasquehannah, in which he informs me that he and Montour were got safe there, tho not without abundance of Danger. That the Delawares were obstinately bent on the Destruction of the English, and say they will pay no Regard to the Interposition of the Six Nations, tho they should send to them their greatest Sachems. He advises me to put the Province into a Posture of Defence, but not to act offensively till I should hear further from him, and be made acquainted with the Determinations of the Six Nations, who he hears were convened by Col. Johnson; and that he proposed to be at the general Convention, and there represent the Conduct of the Delawares and Shawonese, and he hopes with Success, as he had heard that the Six Nation disapproved of the Hostilities, and would resent it. By this Journey He and Mr. Montour have demonstrated that they are our true Friends, and as such will deserve our best Encouragements. Mr. Clause, a young Man who has for some time past lived in the upper Mohock Castle, and is said to understand the Indian Language attends the Treaty which was appointed to be on the Twenty Second of January, and which I hope is now holding at Col. Johnsons on the Part of Pennsylvania, and will hasten to this City as soon as it shall be ended. As soon as I know the Result I will impart it to you.

Two of the Neutrals, one imported at New York and the other here, have obtained my Leave to go to Annapolis in quest of their Families, who they think are in some of the Ships which have arrived in your Province. If they light of them, or any of their Wives and Children belonging to the Men imported here, I desire the Favour of you to suffer as many to come to their Friends here, as these Two will undertake to conduct and defray the Charge of their Journey. I do not mean to put you or myself to any Expence for their Removal; But if Joseph Muncer and Simon Leblanc, who are recommended to me as good and worthy People, and who have been in the Service of his Majesty, will bring any here at their own Expence, I desire they may be indulged to do it. I am

Sir
Your most humble Servant
Robt. H. Morris

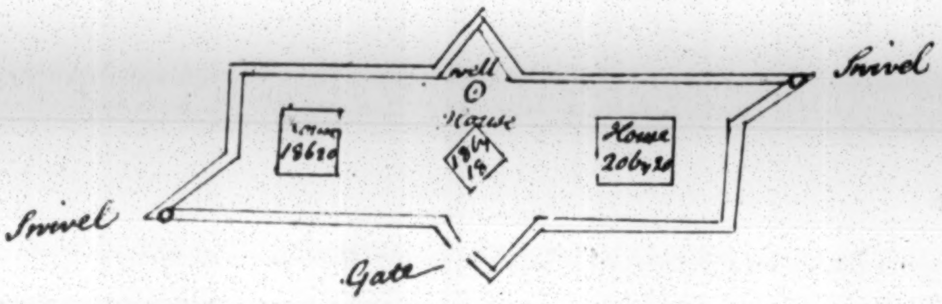
Then were read Two Letters from Mr. Franklin which follow in these Words

Fort Allen, at Gnadenhutten Jan: 25: 1756.

Dear Sir,

We got to Hays's the same Evening we left you and reviewed Craig's Company by the Way. Much of the next morning was spent in exchanging the bad Arms for good, Wayne's Company having joined us. We reachd however that night to Uplinger's, where we got into good Quarters.

Saturday morning we began to march towards Gnadenhutten and proceeded near two miles; but it seeming to set in for a rainy day, the men unprovided with great Coats, and many unable to secure effectually their Arms from the wet, we thought it most adviseable to face about, and return to our former Quarters, where the Men might dry themselves and lie warm; whereas had they proceeded they would have come in wet to Gnadenhutten, where Shelter and Opportunity of drying themselves that night was uncertain. In fact it raind all day and we were all pleased that we had not proceeded. — The next Day, being Sunday, we marchd hither where we arrived about 2 in the afternoon, and before 5 had inclosed our Camp with a strong Breast work, Musquet Proof, and with the Boards brought here before by my Order from Drucker's Mill, got ourselves under some Shelter from the Weather. — Monday was so dark with a thick Fog all day, that we coud neither look out for a Place to build, or see where Materials were to be had. Tuesday morning we lookd round us, pitchd on a Place, markd out our Fort on the Ground, and by 10 o Clock began to cut Timber for Stockades, and to dig the Ground. By 3 in the afternoon, the Logs were all cut and many of them halled to the Spot, the Ditch dug to set them in 3 Feet deep, and that Evening many were pointed and set up. The next Day we were hindered by Rain most of the Day. Thursday we resumd our Work, and before night were pretty well enclosed, and on Friday morning the Stockado was finished, and Part of the Platform within erected, which was compleated the next morning, when we dismiss'd Foulk's and Wetterholts' Companies, and sent Hays's down for a Convoy of Provisions. This Day we hoisted your Flag, made a general Discharge of our Pieces, which had been long loaded, and of our two Swivels, and named the Place Fort Allen in Honor of our old Friend. It is 125 Feet long, 50 wide, the Stockadoes most of them a Foot thick, they are 3 Foot in the Ground and 12 Feet out, pointed at the Top; the Figure nearly as follows.-



This is an Account of our Weeks Work, which I thought might give you some Satisfaction.

Foulk is gone to build another, between this and Schuylkill Fort, which I hope will be finished (as Trexler is to join him) in a Week or 10 Days. As soon as Hays returns, I shall detach another Party to erect another at Surfas's, which I hope may be finished in the same Time, and then I purpose to end my Campaign, God willing, and do myself the Pleasure of seeing you in my Return. I can now add no more than that I am with great Esteem and Affection Dr. Friend

Yours affectionately

B. Franklin

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire.

Fort Allen at Gnadenhutt
Jany 26. 1756.

Sir

We left Bethlehem the 10th. Instant, with Foulk's Company, 46 Men, the Detachment of McLaughlin's 20, and 7 Waggons laden with Stores and Provisions. We got that night to Hays's Quarters, where Wayne's Company joined us from Nazareth.

The next Day we marched cautiously thro' the Gap of the Mountain, a very dangerous Pass, and got to Uplinger's but twenty one Miles from Bethlehem, the Roads being bad, and the Waggons moving slowly.

(After giving an Account of the weeks Work almost verbatim as in the foregoing he proceeds)

This present Monday we are erecting a third House in the Fort to accommodate the Garrison.

As

Pennsylvania. 1756.

As soon as Capt.ⁿ Hays returns with the Convoy of Stores and Provisions, which I hope may be to morrow, I purpose to send Orndt and Hays to Haeds to join Capt.ⁿ Trump in erecting the middle Fort there, purposing to remain here between them and Foulk, ready to assist and supply both, as occasion may require; and hope in a week or ten Days, weather favouring, those two Forts may be finished and the Line of Forts compleated and garrisoned, the Rangers in Motion, and the internal Guards and Watches disbanded; as well as some other Companies; unless they are permitted and encouraged to go after the Enemy to Sasquehannah.

At present the Expence in this County is prodigious. We have on Foot, and in Pay, the following Companies.

Trump - - - -	50	Men
Aston - - - -	50	
Wayne - - - -	55	
Foulk - - - -	46	without the Forts
Trexler - - -	48	
Wetterhold -	44	
Orndt - - - -	50	
Craig - - - -	30	in the Irish Settlements
Martin - - -	30	
Van Etten - -	30	Minisinks
Hays - - - -	45	
Detachment of M:Laughlin	20	
Parsons - - -	24	at Easton
	522	

This, Sir, is a particular Account of our Transactions, and the present State of Affairs in this County. I am glad to learn by your Favour of the 21.st just received, that you have Thoughts of coming to Bethlehem, as I may hope for an Opportunity of waiting upon your Honour there, after our Works are finished, and communicating every thing more fully. I now only add that I am with dutiful Respect

Sir

Your Honour's most obedient
humble Servant

B Franklin

To Gov.ʳ Morris.

tants of this Province, And further, that a Copy of the Indian Minutes at Carlisle & Conestogoe be sent Col. Johnson along with the Scalp and Strings delivered by the Indians.

The Governor informed the Council that he had issued Writts for summoning the Assembly to meet on Tuesday the 3d of February next.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Friday the 30th January, 1756.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell,	Benjamin Shoemaker,	Esquires.
Lynford Lardner,	Richard Peters,	
Benjamin Chew,	John Mifflin,	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Council took into Consideration Governor Shirley's Request that the Governor would please to issue a Commission to some Persons of Probity and Judgment to hear and settle the Accounts of the Waggoners and Horses hired at the Instance of the late General Braddock for the Use of the Army, and the Council recommended Edward Shippen, Samuel Morris, Samuel McCall, Junior, and William Lake, Esquires, or any three of them, to be a Committee for settling the Waggon Accounts, and a Commission issued to them accordingly.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Monday, February 2d, 1756.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell,	Benjamin Chew,	Esquires.
Richard Peters,		

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor laid before the Board his Answer to Governor Hardy in these Words:

"PHILADELPHIA, February 2d, 1756.

"Sir—

"I returned to this Place on Wednesday last from a Month's Tour I made into the Frontier Counties, in order to put them into a Posture of Defence, and to form a chain of Forts and Blockhouses all along the Kittatinny Hills from Delaware to the Maryland Line near the River Potomack; and the Necessity I was under of setting off immediately upon my Return from New York, prevented me from making my acknowledgments to you for the Civilities I received while there.

"I found here your Favour of the 12th January, relating to the Complaint of the Senecas, which I immediately laid before the Council, and made all the Enquiry I could concerning the Fact, but cannot find that anything of the kind has ever happened in the Memory of any of the Persons concerned in the Publick Affairs of this Province. I am, therefore, apprehensive that it is a Story made by some of the disaffected of that Tribe to cover or excuse some Injury done or intended against the Inhabitants of this Province. What induces me the more to believe it to be a Story without Foundation, is that the Place assigned for the Transaction is far within the Settlements of this Province, out of any Road that is used by Warriors, and, had it happened, must have been known. However, I have sent to the Provincial Interpreter to be informed if he knows, or ever heard of such a Affair, and directed him to enquire of the Indians living in this Province (many of whom are Senecas) whether such a Transaction ever came to their Knowledge, and who were the Persons concerned in it; and if that or any thing of the kind appears to have been done, I shall do all in my Power to give the Senecas full Satisfaction.

"I am extreamly obliged to you for communicating this Matter, and hope Col. Johnson, to whom I shall send upon the Subject, will set the Matter in a proper Light, and prevent the Senecas from taking any rash Measures till the Affair can fully be enquired into.

"In about ten days I expect the Chain of Forts and Block Houses along our extensive Frontier will be compleat, and render the Settlements within them tolerably secure; but the expence of defending the Province in this way will be very heavy, as it has already gone near to consume the sixty thousand Pounds, and this may possibly induce the Assembly here to come into vigorous measures for removing the War into the Enemy's Country.

"My Assembly meets to-morrow, when I shall communicate to them the Plan of Operations concerted at New York, and endeavour to prevail with them to take a considerable Part in Measures the Success of which will redound so much to the Honour of the Provinces concerned, and render it very difficult for the French to disturb the Quiet of these Colonies hereafter; but I can as yet form no Judgment what part they will take.

"I am, Sir, Your Excellency's most obedient and most humble Servant,

"ROBT. H. MORRIS."

And then was read a Letter from the Reverend Mr. Gideon Hawley, a new England Presbyterian Missionary at Oneoquago, inclosing a Speech from Scarrooyady and Andrew Montour, to which the Governor wrote an answer, which follows:

A Letter to the Governor from the Reverend Mr. Gideon Hawley.

"ONOHQUOGE, 4th Jan'y 1756.

"Honored Sir:

"This Evening Andrew Montour and Scarrooyady arrived here and inform us that they were sent by your Honour to get Intelligence of the Disposition of the Indians on the Sasquehannah. That they have the unhappiness to find all the Delawares, who are settled at Wyoming, and at and about Diahoga, in the French Interest; that these (the Delawares) with a Party from Ohio, have lately done Mischief on your Frontiers; that they have captivated 26 Persons, the most of which are women and Children; and that there are five English Captives now at Diahoga; but they inform us that those who are of the Five Nations, Shawonese and Mohiccons, who are interspersed among them, design early in the Spring to leave the Delawares and remove into the Country of the Five Nations, being determined to abide by them; but perhaps it may be a Satisfaction to be informed by Scarrooyady himself. The following is a Speech which he desired me to pen, and transmit to your Honour with all Speed. He addresses himself to your Honour and Mr. Peters, thus:

"'Brethren, Onas and Oneratael—

"'The Delawares on Sasquehannah declare in plain Terms that they shall pay no Regard to what shall be said to dissuade them from Hostilities against the English. That they will not hear the greatest Sachem in the Country of the Confederates. That they are determined to fight the English as long as there is a Man left; and that when they have conquered the English, they will turn their Arms against those Indians who will not join with them now. I am arrived here and now feel safe and easy; but 'tis with much Difficulty that I have come thro' the Settlement of the Delawares. I have but just escaped with life. When I return I shall go by the Way of Albany, for there is no going back by the way I came. You may expect to hear from us again by the next Opportunity. We design to go forward, quite into the Country of the Five Nations, and perhaps, as there is soon to be a meeting of the Confederates, we shall go on as far as Onondago. We shall not return till we can bring you the best Intelligence of the Situation of Affairs in those Parts.

"'I advise you to lay still, and not come against your Enemies this way, till you have further Intelligence; but you'll guard your Frontiers well and keep Scouts out constantly. You may rely upon it that none but Enemy Indians will come upon your Frontiers. Those who design to be at Peace with the English, will either remove this way immediately, or keep at home. Early in the Spring the Shawonese and Mohiccons and all that abide by the Six Nations will come this Way.

"'I would inform you that now I am arrived here at Oncoquago, and my Brethren here inform me that our Nephews (the Delawares), who live near the Minesinks on the River Delaware, a few Days ago told their Uncles (the Five Nations) that they would not join with their Brethren against the English, but would live and die with the Five Nations. This is all at present from

"'SCARROOYADY.'

"I am your Honour's most humble Servant,

"GID. HAWLEY.

"The Wampum inclosed was presented by Scarrooyady when he concluded his Speech. 'Tis much for the British Interest that Montour and Scarrooyady came this Way in the present Conjuncture.

"P. S.—There is here a very ingenious Gunsmith, who has for more than a twelve month past worked at his Trade here constantly. Perhaps it might be well for the publick to encourage him to continue in his Business here. I would inform your Honour that the two Families of White People, who live here are obliged to be at much Expence in feeding the Indians who run away from Ohio and other Parts to the Southward, for fear of the French and their Indians. Perhaps if the Publick were sensible how much we are obliged to expended in Acts of Kindness they would allow us some small Consideration.

"I am Your Honour's, &ca.

"GID. HAWLEY.

"To the Honble. ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esqr., Lieut. Govr. &c., of his Majesty's Province of Pennsylvania, &c.

"This morning Scarrooyady desires me to inform your Honour, that the Five Nations have lately called the Delawares to treat with them at Onandago, and that if they will not repent of the Mischief which they have done in falling upon the English, and make up the Matter and be peaceable, the Five Nations will immediately cut them off. He says they will speak but once to them. Montour informs me that if the Delawares had known their Business to the Five Nations, Scarrooyady and he had never come thro' their Settlements. He says he should have given your Honour Intelligence of the situation of Affairs on this River had it been practicable. But no friendly Indians dare venture upon your Frontiers for fear of being treated as Enemies. I would give your Honour a Narrative of Facts relating to the Delawares and of their Messages to the Five Nations since the last Week in October last, was I not in the utmost Confusion, being upon the Wing to Boston, expecting to set off this morning. As my Business at present is here, and as I have some Acquaintance with the Indians in these Parts, and can use the Language of the Five Nations pretty well, I may possibly have it in my Power to serve the Interest of your Province, which I shall be proud to do.

"I am, Your Honour's most humble Servant,

"GID. HAWLEY.

"January 5th, 1756.

"To the Hon^{ble} ROBT. MORRIS, Esqr., &^{ca}."

The Governor likewise wrote to Governor Sharpe on this occasion the following Letter:

"Sir:

"I have the Pleasure to acquaint you that I have received a Letter from Scarrooyady dated the Fourth of January at Oncoquago, an Indian Town situate on the Head Branches of the Sasquehannah, in which he informs me that he and Montour were got safe there, tho' not without abundance of Danger; that the Delawares were obstinately bent on the Destruction of the English, and say they will pay no Regard to the Interposition of the Six Nations tho' they should send to them their greatest Sachems. He advises me to put the Province into a Posture of Defence, but not to act offensively till I should hear further from him and be made acquainted with the Determinations of the Six Nations, who he hears were convened by Col. Johnson; and that he proposed to be at the general Convention and there represent the Conduct of the Delawares and Shawonese, and he hopes with success, as he had heard that the Six Nations disapproved of the Hostilities and would resent it. By this Journey He and Mr. Montour have demonstrated that they are our true Friends, and as such will deserve our best Encouragements.

"Mr. Clause, a young Man who has for some time past lived in the Upper Mohock Castle, and is said to understand the Indian Language, attends the Treaty which was appointed to be on the Twenty-Second of January, and which I hope is now holding at Col. Johnson's, on the Part of Pennsylvania, and will hasten to this City as soon as it shall be ended. As soon as I know the Result I will impart it to you.

"Two of the neutrals, one imported at New York and the other here, have obtained my Leave to go to Annapolis in quest of their Families, who they think are in some of the Ships which have arrived in your Province. If they light of them or any of their Wives and Children belonging to the Men imported here, I desire the Favour of you to suffer as many to come to their Friends here as these two will undertake to conduct and defray the Charge of their Journey. I do not mean to put you or my self to any Expence for their Removal; But if Joseph Muncer and Simon Leblane, who are recommended to me as good and worthy People, and who have been in the Service of his Majesty, will bring any here at their own Expence I desire they may be indulged to do it.

"I am, Sir, Your most humble Servant,

"ROBT. H. MORRIS."

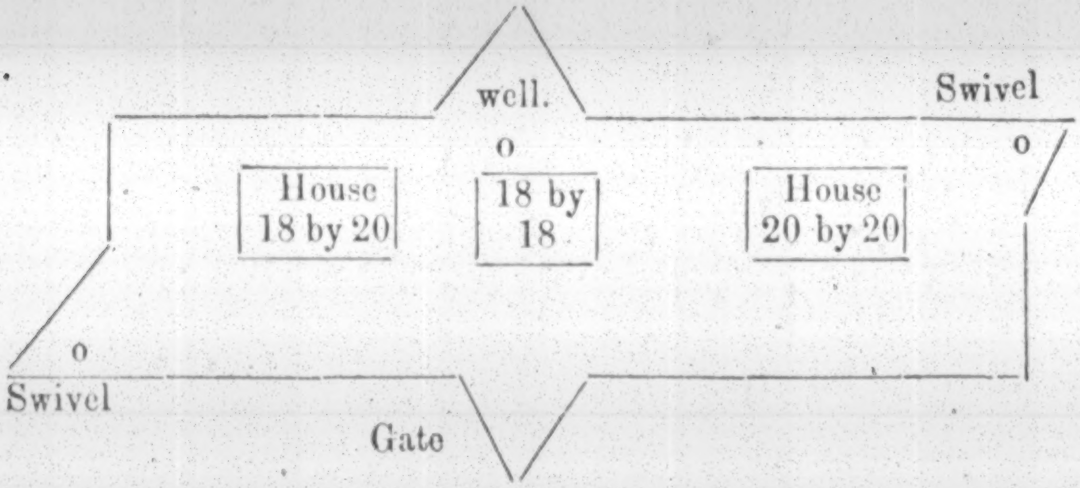
Then were read Two Letters from Mr. Franklin, which follow in these words:

"FORT ALLEN, at GNADENHUTTEN, Jan. 25, 1756.

"Dear Sir:

"We got to Hays' the same Evening we left you, and reviewed Craig's Company by the Way. Much of the next morning was spent in exchanging the bad arms for good—Wayne's Company having joined us. We reached, however, that night to Uplinger's, where we got into good Quarters.

"Saturday morning we began to march towards Gnadenhutten, and proceeded near two miles; but it seeming to set in for a rainy day, the Men unprovided with great Coats, and many unable to secure, effectually, their Arms from the wet, we thought it most adviseable to face about and return to ourf ormer Quarters, where the Men might dry themselves and lie warm; whereas, had they proceeded they would have come in wet to Gnadenhutten where Shelter and Opportunity of drying themselves that night was uncertain. In fact it rain'd all day and we were all pleased that we had not proceeded. The next Day being Sunday, we march'd hither, where we arrived about 2 in the afternoon, and before 5 had inclosed our Camp with a Strong Breast work, Musket Proof, and with the Boards brought here before by my Order from Drucker's mill, got ourselves under some shelter from the Weather. Monday was so dark with a thick Fog all day, that we cou'd neither look out for a Place to build or see where Materials were to be had. Tuesday morning we looked round us, Pitched on a Place, mark'd out our Fort on the Ground, and by 10 o'clock began to cut Timber for Stockades and to dig the Ground. By 3 in the afternoon the Logs were all cut and many of them halled to the Spot, the Ditch dug to Set them in 3 Feet deep, and that Evening many were pointed and set up. The next Day we were hinder'd by Rain most of the Day. Thursday we resum'd our Work and before night were pretty well enclosed, and on Friday morning the Stockado was finished and part of the Plat form within erected, which was compleated the next morning, when we dismissed Foulk's and Wetterholt's Companies, and sent Hays' down for a Convoy of Provisions. This Day we hoisted your Flag, made a general Discharge of our Pieces, which had been long loaded, and of our two Swivels, and nam'd the Place *Fort Allen*, in Honor of our old Friend. It is 125 Feet long, 50 wide, the Stocadoes most of them a Foot thick; they are 3 Foot in the Ground and 12 Feet out, pointed at the Top, the Figure nearly as follows:



"This is an Account of our Week's Work, which I thought might give you some Satisfaction.

"Foulk is gone to build another, between this and Schuylkill Fort, which I hope will be finished (as Trexter is to Join him) in a Week or 10 Days. As soon as Hays returns I shall detach another Party to erect another at Surfas' which I hope may be finished in the same Time and then I purpose to end my Campaign, God willing, and do myself the Pleasure of seeing you in my Return. I can now add no more than that I am, with great Esteem and affection, D^r Friend,

"Yours, affectionately,

"B. FRANKLIN.

"The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire."

"FORT ALLEN, AT GNADENHUTT.,
"Jan^y. 26, 1756.

"Sir:

"We left Bethlehem the 10th Instant with Foulk's Company, 46 Men, the Detachment of M'Laughlin's, 20, and 7 Waggons laden with Stores and Provisions. We got that night to Hays' Quarters, where Wayne's Company joined us from Nazareth.

"The next Day we marched cautiously thro' the Gap of the Mountain, a very dangerous Pass, and got to Uplinger's, but twenty-one Miles from Bethlehem, the Roads being bad and the Waggons moving slowly."

(After giving an account of the week's Work almost verbatim as in the foregoing, he proceeds):

"This present Monday we are erecting a third House in the Fort to accommodate the Garrison.

"As soon as Capt. Hays returns with the Convoy of Stores and Provisions, which I hope may be to-morrow, I purpose to send Orndt and Haeds to Join Capt. Trump in erecting the middle Fort there, purposing to remain here between them and Foulk, ready to assist and supply both as occasion may require, and hope in a week or ten Days, weather favouring, those two Forts may be finished and the Line of Forts compleated and garrisoned, the Rangers in Motion, and the internal Guards and Watches disbanded, as well as some other Companies, unless they are permitted and encouraged to go after the Enemy to Sasquehannah.

"At present the Expence in this County is prodigious. We have on Foot, and in Pay, the following Companies:

"Trump	50	Men.
"Aston	50	
"Wayne	55	
"Foulk	46	without the Forks.
"Trexler	48	
"Wetterhold	44	
"Orndt	50	
"Craig	30	in the Irish Settlements.
"Martin	30	
"Van Etten	30	Minisinks.
"Hays	45	
"Detachment of M'Laughlin	20	
"Parsons	24	at Easton.
	522	

"This, Sir, is a particular Account of our Transactions and the present State of Affairs in this County. I am glad to learn by your Favour of the 21st Just received, that you have Thoughts of coming to Bethlehem, as I may hope for an Opportunity of waiting upon your Honour there after our Works are finished, and communicating every thing more fully. I now only add that I am, with dutiful Respect,

"Sir, Your Honour's most obedient humble Servant,

"B. FRANKLIN.

"To Govr. Morris."

Susquahana Mett, the Five Nations are not yet arrived, they are verry much alarmed at the Menaces of the French. and I expect will be asking great things to be done for them. As Men Arms Amunition &ca I should be glad to have Y^r. Excellencys directions should that be the Case. also how to Act with regard to the Indian Officers whether they are to be disbanded, or continued, and how I am to pay them, as they are daily demanding their pay, and indeed want it most of them. as we have lost Severall of the best of them in the late action should be glad to know whether I may Give Your Commissions to Such as I think worthy of them. I am much hurried, So hope You will excuse My inaccuracy,

I am Sr. &ca

GENERAL SHIRLEY

FROM WILLIAM SHIRLEY

L. S.[1]

Boston 5th. Feb^y. 1756

SIR

I have received your favour of the 29th. January with Copys of the Message from the Sachems of the Six Nations and a Letter from John Van Sise[2] containing an Account of the Threats of a French Officer in relation to Oswego.

I intirely join with you in Opinion that if the French design to attack Oswego, they will not come from Niagara to do it, therefore must Conclude that those Menaces of the French are made with a design to induce the Indians of the Six Nations to remain neutar and to prevent their making any Engagements against them, at their next Meeting at your House.

I am glad to find that you are like to have so General a Meeting of the Indians.— You may Assure them that I shall the next Campaigne employ a great Army in the defence of their Country and recovering such parts of it as have been encroached upon by the French and that in the mean time his Majesty's Troops in the Province of New York shall be held in readiness to defend them against any Attempts of the French before the Opening of the Campaigne, And I hope you will prevail on them to have a Number of their Warriors in readiness to fall on the French in any March they shall Attempt to make. As to Arms and Ammunition &c I leave it to your prudence to supply them with such Quantities as you shall judge necessary.

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[1] In Henry E. Huntington Library, San Marino, Cal.

[2] John Van Seice (Van Sice) to Johnson, Jan. 23, 1756.

As to the Indian Officers I also leave it to your prudence to disband or continue such of them as you think proper And to pay them according to the Settlements sent you by General Braddock.

I am with great truth

Sir,

Your most Humble

Servant,

W SHIRLEY

MAJOR GENERAL JOHNSON

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE[1]

Copy[2]

[*February 2–16, 1756.*]

February 2, 1756.

At a meeting of the Oneidas, Tuscaroras, Skaniadaradighronos, Chugnuts, and Mahickanders, I made an answer to their Speech in the presence of,

The Rev. Mr. Hawley,	Mr. Daniel Clause,
Lieutenant Miller,	Arent Stevens,
Mr. Reed,	William Printup,
Three Interpreters,	

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[1] At Fort Johnson.

[2] Printed in *An account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the Chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 16–22.

Canadagaye a Mohawk chief, my speaker, stood up and answered to their speech as follows, viz.

Brethren of the Oneidas, Tuscaroras, Skaniadaradighronos, Mahickanders, Chugnuts, and Shawanese.

I approve much of your openness of heart to me on this occasion, and as that is the surest way of having your grievances redressed, I would advise you (as I have often your brethren of the six nations) always to follow that method, and you may be assured I will endeavour to ease your minds, and do every thing in my power to contribute to your happiness. As for the idle surmises of, or reports spread by any ill minded silly people, who know nothing of your sentiments, or the state of your or our affairs, I must desire you will not give ear to, nor be in the least uneasy at them, for their words are like wind and not to be noticed. If at any time your minds are disturbed, or that you labour under any difficulties, let me know it immediately, you may depend upon relief. The strong assurances you now, and always have given me of your attachment to your brethren the English, and of your gathering together, gives me the greatest pleasure, and will animate me to take more care of you, which you may depend upon as long as you continue stedfast friends to the English, which you will ever find it your interest to do.

A belt.

Brethren of the several before-mentioned nations.

Your case I have considered, and agree with you in opinion, that your present situation is far from being safe, having so dangerous and deceitful an enemy, as the French are notoriously known to be on the one side, and their blindfolded, rash Indians (who know not their own interest) on the other. Wherefore, agreeable to your request, I shall immediately have a fort built for the safety of your old people, children, and friends, living round about there; I will also supply you with arms, ammunition, &c. to defend the said fort, against any attempts the French, or their Indians, may make upon you: keep a good look out, and if at any time you find a design against you, let me know it, and I will come immediately to your assistance. This I confirm by this belt of wampum.

A belt.

February 2, 1756.

The answer of the Aughquageys, Tuscaroras, Skaniadaradighronos, Mahickanders, Chugnuts, and Shawanese.

Adam, Speaker.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We the several nations of Indians living at and about Susquehanna river and its branches, here present, return you our most hearty thanks for your kind compliance to our requests, as well as for the great regard you shew for our safety, by promising to come in person to our assistance, should there be occasion at any time for it: this convincing proof of your love for us, at this critical time, lays us under the greatest obligations; and be assured we and ours shall never forget it as long as the waters of Susquehanna run.

A belt, and finished, giving six shouts of approbation.

Friday 6th, I sent an Indian express, with a belt of wampum, to know the reason of the six nations delay.

Monday 9th, Not hearing from them yet, and all the other nations waiting here impatiently, dispatched Jacobus Clemont, one of the interpreters, to bring them down speedily.

Wednesday 11th, Three Onondaga warriors arrived at my house, with three strings of Wampum from the Sachems, acquainting me that their nations Cayougas, and Senecas, were making all the haste possible, and would be here tomorrow in a body: in the afternoon the Onondagas and Cayougas arrived, and told me that fifty Senecas would be here to-morrow.

The Mohawk Sachems came to me with an express from their brethren the Canajoharees, acquainting them and me, that the

Oneidas and Tuscaroras, were to be on Friday at their castle, in order to condole the death of the great Hendrick, and the other chiefs of that castle, who were slain at Lake George, and desired theirs and my attendance at the ceremony; I gave them the proper belts of wampum on that occasion, and desired they would act for me, as I could not possible attend, there being so many Indians at my house, which they readily agreed to, and set off.

Thursday 12th, The Senecas arrived and told me, that the Oneidas and Tuscaroras would not be here until Saturday or Sunday, for the above-mentioned reason.

Friday 13th, Some more of the Senecas arrived, when I performed the necessary ceremony on that occasion.

Saturday 14th, I had an express sent me by the Canajoharees, that a great number of the Oneidas, Tuscaroras and Mohawks, were met there, and would finish their condolence that day, and set off the next; which they accordingly did; and on

Monday 16th, The Oneidas and Tuscaroras arrived here, when I received them, and performed the usual ceremony on that occasion.

After that Canaghquayeson, an Oneida Sachem, stood up and spake:

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We doubt not but you have been uneasy at our staying so long after our brethren of the other nation; the reason is this, we have been clearing up the road of our fore-fathers, as is customary among us (meaning the condoling of the loss of several of their people, who died and were killed since they travelled that road before) particularly at Canajoharee, where we have lost two great men, in whose stead or room we have appointed others. Our brethren of the other nations have passed by and neglected this, which we think wrong. Now we are here compleat, and beg you will be easy in your mind.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

Hoping we have now quieted your mind, we beg you will think and speak coolly, otherwise it may be of ill consequence to us, as our welfare depends greatly on your cool deliberations.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

As this is the council room, where all the affairs of the six nations are transacted; and as you told me you would keep a white wing hanging in it to sweep it clean with, we now take this fan down, and sweep all dust and dirt out of it, so as nothing may interrupt us in our councils and deliberations.

Three strings of wampum.

February 16th, 1756.

My answer to the Oneidas and Tuscaroras Speech.

Brethren,

On your arrival yesterday you expressed your concern, lest I might be uneasy at your staying so much longer than the rest of your brethren, and than the time appointed. The reasons you have given for it are a sufficient apology; I am very glad you have done every thing necessary on your part, agreeable to your customs, and the rules laid down to you by your wise ancestors. So many of you appearing here now at this council, and at so bad a season of the year, gives me great pleasure, as it plainly demonstrates your regard to my invitation

A belt.

Brethren,

I thank you for the prudent and kind steps you have taken to quiet my mind at this time; I assure you it is quite settled, and my thoughts fixed upon nothing so much, as what may tend to your welfare, and that of all your brethren in general.

A belt.

Brethren,

I have had this council room (on my inviting you and the rest of the nations to it) well cleansed; but as you imagined it might have (by your staying so much longer than the time appointed for meeting) gathered some dust; I am glad you have taken down the fan, and swept it, so that nothing might in the least impede our consultations.

Three strings of wampum.

Ended this affair.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE[1]

Copy[2]

My answer made *February 17, 1756.*

Arent Stevens, interpreter.

Brethern [*sic*] of Tuscarora,

I received the friendly speech[3] which you made at my house when I was at New-York, together with your acknowledgments for the arms, ammunition, &c. I gave your nation; I heartily wish they may answer the end they were designed for, which was to enable you to secure yourselves against any attempts of the French, or any other enemy. I highly approve of your wisdom and timely advice to your elder brothers the Oneidas, and am extremely glad that you and they have at last agreed to build a place of defence, and to join your brethren the English against any attempts of your and our common enemy the French.

A belt.

Brethren of Oneida.

It highly pleases me to find you so grateful for the advice I have given you, and the assistance I promised you should have, as well as your brethren the Tuscaroras; and I expect you and they, together with the Skaniadaradighronos, will live so compact, and have your castle fortified in such a manner, as may enable you to make a bold defence, should any attempts be made against you.

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[1] At Fort Johnson.

[2] Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours* . . ., p. 7–10.

[3] See Robert Adams to Johnson, Jan. 28, 1756 and speech that follows.

If you do this, and have a good officer with a party of men there, nothing can hurt you.

A belt.

Brethren,

Nothing can give me greater satisfaction, than to find you have at last come to your senses, and to the use of your hearing, of which you have acknowledged to have been bereft some time.

As I have a great regard for you, I most sincerely wish you may continue in your senses, that you may follow the wholesome advice which your brother the Tuscarora, although younger, has given you, and that which I shall from time to time give you.

Brethren,

Had you been in your right senses, and your eyes open when I timely acquainted you with the designs of the French encroaching on your hunting-grounds, and destroying you, and had followed my advice, the French would not have been now in possession of the best part of your country, and bid you defiance as they now do.

Shake away then that infatuation, which has so long had the better of you, and exert yourselves now in conjunction with your Father the King's troops, and you may still recover your lands and be a happy people, which is the sincere wish of your Father and all your brethren.

Your not complying with the governor of Canada's invitation to meet him at Swegatsy, was quite right; and I am glad you have taken so firm a resolution of adhering to your engagements: had you acted otherwise, it would have been a breach of the many solemn promises you have made to me on that head.

A belt.

Brethren of Oneida and Tuscarora,

I am heartily pleased to hear from you, that you have not been so remiss as I imagined, with regard to the Delawares

and Shawanese; and that you are determined to have a conference with them. I must press you in the most strenuous manner to exert your authority at said meeting, and let me know the result thereof as soon as possible.

A belt.

Brethren,

I heard general Shirley say, that he had ordered a fort to be built for you some time ago: why his orders have not been complied with I cannot say; but this I may venture to affirm, it was not his fault: however, as you now desire it may be built, I will order proper persons to go about it as soon as possible.

A belt.

Ended.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE[1]

Copy[2]

At a private meeting of the upper Mohawk castle,

Wednesday the 18th. [*February, 1756*]

Present all the sachems and warriors,

Abraham, Hendrick's brother, stood up and spoke.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We return you our hearty thanks, for the care you have taken in fortifying our castle last summer, agreeable to our desire, and also of garrisoning it in our absence, for the security of our old people and children. And as we look upon it as necessary now as ever (from the many reports we daily have, of the French's intentions of attacking us for our attachment to you) we earnestly desire there may be an officer, and a proper number of men, posted there, as soon as possible for our defence.

A belt.

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[1] At Fort Johnson.

[2] Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 22.

Brethren of Canajoharee,

As I am fully convinced of your sincerity and attachment to his Majesty's interest, I readily comply with your request, not doubting it will be very agreeable to your Father the great king, who has nothing more at heart than the safety and welfare of you his faithful children; as an assurance of what I say, and now promise to you, I give you this belt of wampum.

A belt.

So this meeting ended.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE

Copy[1]

[*Fort Johnson, Feb. 18–19, 1756*]

At a meeting of five hundred and eighty-six of the Six nations and their allies, at Fort Johnson, February the 18th 1756.

Present,

The honourable William Johnson, sole superintendant of their Affairs,
The Rev. Dr. Ogilvie,[2]
The Rev. Mr. Hawley,
Capt. Beckwith,
Lieut. Miller,
Lieut. Dunbar,
Lieut. Pottinger,
Lieut. Mills,[3]
Lieut. Lottridge,
Capt. Butler[4], and other Indian officers,
Several gentlemen,
The deputy secretary,
And four interpreters,

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[1] Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours* . . ., p. 23–25.

[2] "Missionary, stationed among the Mohawks." [Ed's note.]

[3] "A brave English-man, Lieutenant of the independant companies in the province of New-york." [Ed's note.]

[4] "An Irish gentleman, in the same rank with Mills, and has resided among the Mohawks above 20 years." [Ed's note.]

I, (viz. Gen. Johnson) spoke as follows:

Brethren of the six united nations,

I have heard with great concern that a war-party of the Senecas, the most remote nation of the confederacy, have had a considerable misunderstanding with their brethren the English to the southward, which has been fatal to some of that nation. I am extremely unable to express my concern for that unhappy affair; and as the hatchet remains fixed in your heads, I do with the greatest affection and tenderness remove it thence.

A belt.

Brethren,

With this belt I cleanse and purify the beds of those who fell in that unfortunate affair, from the defilement they have contracted.

A belt.

Brethren,

I am informed that upon that unhappy occasion you have lost three of your principal warriors; I do with this belt cover their dead bodies, that they may not offend our fight any more, and bury the whole affair in eternal oblivion.

A belt.

Brethren,

I have now agreeable to your antient customs scattered those clouds that looked with so dark and threatning an aspect; the sun now shines bright again, therefore let us under its enlightning and cherishing influences, proceed upon our important business with our usual chearfulness and unanimity.

A belt.

The remaining part of the ceremony of condolence, jointly in the name of General Johnson and Governor Morris, whom Skaronyade the half king, and Mr. Montour, represented.

Brethren of the Cayougas and Toderighronos,

By constant experience we discover, that the life of man is as the flower of the field; in this transitory scene, therefore, resignation becomes us under the loss of our nearest and dearest friends: comfort yourselves, therefore, under the losses you have sustained, as becomes reasonable creatures. With this belt I cover all your dead, that they may no more offend your fight.

A belt.

Brethren of the Onondagas, Oneidas, Tuscaroras, Skaniadaradighronos, Aughquaygeys, and the Mohawks of both castles,

I perform the same ceremony to you. After the ceremony, six French prisoners, some of those who were taken at the late battle, near Lake George, were delivered with great ceremony to the Indians, in order to replace the following Indians, who were killed in that battle, viz. Tayanoga, alias Hendrick Tarraghiyoris; Waniacoone of Canajoharee; Skahyowio Onienkoto of the Mohawks; Nica-anawa Skaronyade's son; and Cayadanora, a Tuscarora.

They received the prisoners with the greatest marks of gratitude and satisfaction; every nation giving the shout of approbation, and then carried off the prisoners to their respective families.

Thus ended the ceremony necessary on those occasions, agreeable to their customs.

The answer of the Six nations and their allies,

February 19th 1756.

Red Head, speaker,

Present,

The hono. William Johnson,
The Rev. Dr. Ogilvie,
The Rev. Mr. Hawley,
Lieut. Miller,
Lieut. Dunbar,
Capt. Butler, and other Indian officers,
Three interpreters.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We the sachems and warriors of the Seneca nation, return you our sincere and hearty thanks, for the great affection in drying our tears, and driving sorrow from our hearts; and we in return perform the same ceremony to you with the like hearty affection.

A string of wampum.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are sensible of your goodness, expressed to us in removing the cause of our grief, and tenderly taking the ax out of our heads. A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are thankful to you for cleaning the blood out of our fight, agreeable to the antient custom of our forefathers.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are thankful likewise for covering the graves of those who were slain in that unhappy [*sic*] affair.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We acknowledge your goodness in thus settling our minds, which were so much discomposed, and that you have so seasonably reminded us of that harmony, that has always subsisted between our fore-fathers and our brethren the English, an account of which has been handed down, to us by tradition, from father to son. We promise due attention to your advice, which we are convinced tends to our welfare; and assure you, that we bury that unfortunate affair in eternal oblivion.

A belt.

The Cayougas and Toderighronos, return their hearty thanks to the General, for his affectionate and public condolence, with a belt.

A belt.

The Onondagas acknowledge the same with a belt.

A Belt.

The Oneidas do the same.

A belt.

The Tuscaroras and Skaniadaradighronos the same.

A belt.

The two castles of the Mohawks the same.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

The six united nations, as one body, do with the greatest thankfulness acknowledge your brotherly affection, in thus effectually cleansing and purifying all our habitations from all the blood and defilement, which they had contracted by the death of so many of our principal men.

A belt.

The speaker then took up a large belt, which the general gave, with an emblem of the six nations joined hand in hand with us, and spoke as follows:

Brother Warraghiyagey,

Look with attention on this belt, and remember the solemn and mutual engagements we entered into, when you first took upon you the management of our affairs; be assured, we look upon them as sacred, and shall, on our parts, punctually perform them as long as we are a people.

A prodigious large belt!

The speaker then took up another very large belt, which was given them by the governor of New York some years ago.

He then repeated the solemn promises, that were then made them by the representatives of all the governments then present, and said,

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We hope our brethren the English will seriously remember the promises made by us by this belt, and exactly perform them; and we promise to do the same, though we have no records but our memories.

A very large belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

As you, and the governor of Philadelphia, have asked us, what reason we can possibly assign for the barbarous behaviour of our nephews the Delawares; all we can say at present is, that they are deluded by the craft and subtilty of our old and perfidious enemy the French; but we promise on our part, we will try all means to stop their proceeding further in their hostilities, and beg you will do the same.

Three strings of wampum.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We earnestly entreat, that you will immediately acquaint all the governors concerned, that we the six nations have not been inattentive to this important affair, but have already sent some of our people to take the hatchet out of the hands of our nephews the Delawares; and we should be glad that you would draw your troops from the frontiers; then we will endeavour to bring our nephews the Delawares to deliver up all the prisoners they have taken from their brethren the English, and to make the best acknowledgment in their power for their base and treacherous behaviour.

A belt.

Brethren of the six nations,

I am extremely pleased with your kind and friendly acknowledgements of my public condolence yesterday. And as all causes of uneasiness to either of us are now removed, I propose tomorrow to deliver you a speech relative to our present circumstances, which I hope you will be properly prepared to hear.

Ended.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE[1]

Copy[2]

February 19. 1756.

At a meeting of Several principal warriors, from the most remote parts of the Seneca's country, who never came down before to any meeting, the chief man named Kayandagaron, alias Kendorondy, Spoke as follows:

Brother Warraghiyagey,

I, with my party of warriors from Canuskako, the door of the six nations, embrace this first opportunity of shaking you by the hand, and of assuring you, that nothing but my regard for you, and my desire of hearing your sentiments from your own mouth, could have induced me, and my young men, to take such a journey at this time of the year, as we had several of our sachems attending at the meeting. We are now here at the fireplace of all the nations, and assure you we are heartily glad to see you.

Brethren of Canuskako.

As I have nothing more at heart than the welfare of the six nations, and their allies, it always gives me the most sensible pleasure to see, or even to hear from any of them, and more especially you, whom I never saw before, as it affords me an opportunity of commencing that acquaintance and friendship with you, which is natural among brethren, and which my inclination will always lead me to improve, especially with so brave a people as your nation has always been deemed.

Here I ended.

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[1] At Fort Johnson.

[2] Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 29.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE[1]

Copy[2]

[*Feb. 20–24, 1756*]

February 20. 1756.

Present at the following public speech

The hon. William Johnson, sole superintendant of their affairs,
The Rev. Dr. Ogilvie,
The Rev. Mr. Hawley,
Capt. Beckwith,
Lieut. Miller,
Lieut. Dunbar,
Lieut. Pottinger,
Lieut. Lee,
Lieut. Kennedy,
Lieut. Mills,
Ensign Penington,
Several Indian officers, and other gentlemen,
Three interpreters.

Brethren of the six united nations, your allies and dependants,

It always gives me the most solid pleasure to meet you here, that we may felicitate ourselves in the cherishing warmth and light of that fire, kindled here for our mutual good; may it ever burn bright as the sun that illuminates and guides the day, that you and your posterity, to the latest generations, may rejoice in its benevolent influence!

A belt.

Brethren,

It gives me a particular satisfaction to meet you here at this time, for two important reasons. The first is, that it affords us an opportunity of a friendly interview under the shade of that tree, which was lately so solemnly and judiciously planted; and of calmly consulting and maturely deliberating matters of the utmost consequence, and which nearly concerns our mutual safety, welfare and honour.

A belt.

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[1] At Fort Johnson.

[2] Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 30–50.

The second is, that it gives me an opportunity of shaking you by the hand with a brotherly affection, and in the name of the great King your Father, congratulating you upon our late happy success, which I make no doubt must give you the most sensible pleasure; and I flatter myself from your late repeated protestations of fidelity to your brethren the English, it will prove a means of animating you, and all your faithful allies, to stand forth with your usual bravery upon all future occasions.

A belt.

How much greater might our success have been! how much more sensibly would it have been felt by our treacherous and common enemy, had more of your warriors appeared in the field on that important day, had all our force been united? If the bubbling or drops of our war-kettle did so much, how great would have been the consequence, had it boiled with its usual fury! It would, like a mighty torrent, have carried all before it; and it would have sounded the fame of our victorious arms far and near, and spread universal terror all around us!

I, now, in the name of the great King your Father, in this public manner return you thanks for joining our arms last summer, and for your gallant behaviour in that Action. This gives him reason to expect the like fidelity and courageous conduct from you all for the future, and greatly endears you to him, and to all his loving subjects your affectionate brethren.

A belt.

This animates me with fresh pleasure and affection at this important conjuncture of affairs, to brighten and strengthen the covenant-chain, that has so long linked us together, in mutual friendship and mutual affection, which, I hope, will continue inviolable and sacred, as long as the sun shines, or the rivers continue to water the earth, notwithstanding all the intrigues of our old and perfidious enemies, who have left no means unessayed, and especially at this time, to weaken and divide us, that so they may in the event root out the remembrance of your name and nations from the face of the earth.

A large covenant-belt.

Brethren,

On my arrival from lake George last December, I had from your brother the governor of New York, and since from the governor of Pennsylvania, the shocking news of (your nephews) the Delawares and Shawanese falling upon your brethren of Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia in the most cruel and treacherous manner, killing and barbarously butchering the innocent defenceless people, who lived on the frontiers of the said governments; burning and destroying all they had, and that without any just cause or reason, as I understand. This I communicated to you by one of your own people, a Seneca, with a belt of wampum, desiring you would, without loss of time, put a stop to your nephews spilling any more of your brethrens blood; and that you would enquire into, and let me know the reason of such their wicked and unparalleled behaviour to the King's subjects, your brethren and friends. I now repeat the same, and expect to hear what you have done in consequence of said message and desire.

Brethren, I tell you with concern that I plainly foresee, unless you, the six nations, who have always maintained a superiority over the Indians, will now exert yourselves in this case, you will not only lose that authority which they hitherto acknowledged, but will have them your enemies.

A large black belt.

Brethren,

I told you before the governor of Pennsylvania had acquainted me with the base behaviour of your nephews the Shawanese and Delawares, and has also sent your friend Skaronyade, and Andrew Montour to you with his message, and to know your sentiments thereon: I desire and expect you will pay a just regard to his message, and afford him all the assistance you can, in bringing that unhappy affair to as good an issue as possible.

A belt.

Brethren,

I am now to acquaint you, that the great King of England, your Father, on the death of the late general Braddock, has committed the command of all his forces raised, and to be raised upon the continent of North America, to general Shirley; and has in a particular manner commanded him to protect your country, and the lands which your forefathers have conquered, and are of right your territories, against all violence and attempts of the French our common enemy; and to cultivate a strict friendship between him and you; he takes the first opportunity of communicating this to you by me, and of assuring you of his intentions, fully to follow his majesty's instructions herein.

A belt of black wampum.

Brethren,

General Shirley also desires me to acquaint you, that he is to have a great army this ensuing spring for the defence of your country, and the recovery of such parts of it as have been encroached upon by the French; and that in the meantime his majesty's troops in the province of New York, shall be held in readiness to defend you against any attempts the French may make before the opening of the campaign.

A belt.

Brethren,

On my return from New York, I received your kind message and information of the design of the French attacking his majesty's garrison at Oswego: I am extremely obliged to you for your friendly notice, which I immediately acquainted general Shirley and governor Hardy with, by express from Albany, who by their answers to me, are also greatly pleased with you, for the concern you shew for our mutual safety; and I expect you will not only continue your vigilence, but will also be ready (like unalterable friends and brethren) to use the ax which I gave you last summer, in conjunction with his majesty's troops, whenever called upon, either at Oswego, or any where else they may be employed, to the utmost of your power, as it is his majesty's intention to stand by you, and protect you, as well as his own subjects, against the insults or attempts of any enemy whatever. Believe me, Brethren, this is the proper time to convince your Father, the great King of England, and your Brethren, of your sincerity and attachment to their interest, by your acting vigorously with his troops, which I most heartily advise you to do, as it is of the utmost consequence to our mutual interest.

A large belt.

Brethren,

I must now acquaint you, that I propose meeting you at Oswego next spring, and desire you will join with me in the invitation I shall send to your friends and allies, far and near, to come to said meeting; when and where you and they shall receive a handsome present from your Father the great King of England, who is very desirous of bringing all nations worthy of his and your alliance, into the covenant-chain at that meeting. I hope, we shall then be able to make such an alliance, and settle matters in such a manner, and so much to our mutual advantage, as will give reason to all concerned, and their posterity, to bless that happy day we met together.

A belt.

The answer of the Six nations, the 21st
of February 1756.

Red Head, Speaker.

Present

The hon. Will. Johnson,	Lieut. Miller,
The Rev. Dr. Ogilvie,	Lieut. Dunbar,
Capt. Buckworth,	Three Interpreters.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We meet you with the greatest pleasure at this fire-place, and heartily join you in your wishes, that it may burn bright to the latest posterity; let us mutually endeavour to collect such materials for the use of this our fire, as may tend to support it in its full strength, as long as the sun and moon endureth.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We acknowledge that this tree was solemnly and judiciously planted for our mutual welfare, its roots reach to the remotest habitations of the confederacy, and its branches afford a friendly retreat to us and all our allies and dependants. Brother, take a tender care of it, see that it be fed plentifully by friendly streams, that it may increase and spread its branches so far, that it may be a sufficient shade, not only for us, but also for all other nations, which may hereafter come into our alliance.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We heartily rejoice with you upon our late success, and assure you it gives us a solid pleasure.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are extremely well pleased, that our late conduct was so highly acceptable to the great King our Father.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We assure you, that we, on our parts, do with equal pleasure and friendship join with you at this time of public commotion, in brightening and strengthening the covenant-chain, that has so long united us together. Let us mutually and steadfastly adhere to our engagements, notwithstanding the crafty intrigues of our perfidious and blood-thirsty enemies. Let us vigorously endeavour to frustrate all their treacherous designs, that so we may reap the good effects of this our union, which has long been the object of their envy. With this belt we do most solemnly renew the engagements of the antient covenant-chain.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We always look'd upon the Delawares as the more immediate care of Onas,[1] that they were within the circle of his arms; we therefor are of opinion, that he has not taken that friendly care of them as he ought to do, and therefore our common enemy hath taken the advantage of his neglect; for we can't but think, that if there had been proper measures taken, they would have still continued faithful friends to the English Interest.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are sensible of the care of the great King's appointing general Shirley to succeed general Braddock; and we are extremely thankful for the particular instructions he has given him, to cultivate a strict friendship between us and him, and to protect our lands, and recover those encroached upon by our common enemy: we hope and expect, that he will strictly adhere to his majesty's incursions of our treacherous enemies, and use his utmost endeavours to recover those lands which they have clandestinely wrested out of our hands.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are very thankful for the assurance he gives us, that the soldiers posted in this province are to hold themselves in readiness to defend us upon any sudden emergency; for we assure you, we are apprehensive, that as the French find, that all their delusive and wheedling arts have not had their desired effect, they may throw off their disguise, and rush in upon us with a voracious fury, like the wolves of the wilderness.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are pleased that the information we give, with respect of the designs of the French against Oswego, has been acceptable to you, and our Brethren the English; and we promise, for the future, to keep up a strict vigilance. The ax has been frequently put into the hands of our forefathers, by our brethren the English, and they always used it with the utmost vigour, till it was taken out of their hands. We assure you, that we intend, punctually, to conform to the bright and brave examples they set us; and we hope, this will be a sufficient proof of our sincerity and fidelity to the great King our Father.

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[1] "by Onas, they, here, mean governor Morris." [Ed's note.]

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

Your proposal of taking a few embers from the fire at Onondago, to kindle a fire at Oswego, and meeting us there this spring, is highly acceptable to us, as we have good reason to think that the light and warmth of that fire, will invite many nations to meet us there; and, we make no doubt that the things you will propose to their consideration, will carry such light and conviction with them, as will be sufficient to engage them to join in our confederacy; and we promise, to use the utmost endeavours to accomplish that great event; and we doubt not, but that our childrens children will have reason to remember that happy day.

Brother, we very chearfully concur with this your proposal, as we are convinced you will propose nothing but what is for our mutual interest.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We have now opened our minds with freedom and sincerity, and we understand each other clearly; let us mutually remember our engagements, which we have again so solemnly renewed; and if at any time, our enemy should attack us, prove, by your readiness to support and assist us, that you really love us; and we assure you, we shall not be wanting on our parts, to give proofs of the fidelity and friendship.

A belt.

At a meeting of the Six nations, February
the 23^{d}. 1756.

Present

The hon. Will. Johnson,	Capt. Butler, and other Indian officers,
The Rev. Dr. Ogilvie,	
The Rev. Mr. Hawley,	Three interpreters.

Brethren,

As it was very cold and late when I delivered you my speech on Friday night, I told you, I would then postpone some things I had further to say; I now take this opportunity of communicating them to you.

In the first place I must recommend to you, in the strongest manner, as his majesty's troops will be passing and repassing to Oswego next spring, that you endeavour all in your power to keep open the road thither, and not suffer any obstructions or stoppages to be thrown in the way by the enemy, as there is the greatest necessity, for our keeping that road clear and open, it being for our mutual interest and safety.

A belt.

Brethren,

Now is your time, to have forts or trading-houses built in your countries, while your Father the great King of England has your interest so much at heart: if at any time you incline to have such built in any of your castles, only let me know it, and it shall be done.

A belt.

Brethren,

Governor Hardy desired me to acquaint you, that he had a present from your Father the King for you, which he intends to deliver to you here, as soon as possibly he can, and expects your attendance.

Three strings.

Brethren,

The one great end proposed in calling you here, at this season of the year, was, to have that affair of the Delawares and Shawanese settled; but I am sorry to find you are not so hearty in the affair, as I expected you would, or as, at this important time, you ought to be; I must therefore urge you, most strenuously, to fall upon and settle this affair, before you leave this place, as there is no time to be lost; besides, your brethren of the several governments, with impatience, wait the result of this meeting, on which, let me tell you, much depends.

A large belt.

Brethren,

It is my kind concern for your welfare, that leads me to propose the following advice to you. I have your happiness very much at heart, and most zealously wish your prosperity; therefore I conjure you, to observe and follow the friendly hints, I am now going to give you.

1st. Endeavour to bring as many nations of Indians into your alliance as possibly you can; and try all means, without loss of time, to settle the minds of all such as are wavering, and those who are now ready to rebel against you. If you can accomplish this, let your study be, ever after, to keep up that correspondence faith and friendship with them, which is absolutely necessary between friends and allies, and without which, neither friendship or alliance can long subsist.

2dly. I would have you to adhere, inviolably, to all the engagements you have, or shall enter into, with your brethren the English; who have always been your steady friends, and are determined ever to continue such: besides, they are the ablest, and will be the readiest to protect and defend you against any attempt of an enemy; and moreover, can, and will supply you, and all your allies, with the necessaries of life at a cheaper rate, than the French can.

3dly. Be not any longer wheedled, blindfolded, and imposed on, by the artful speeches of the French; for their tongues are full of deceit; do not imagine the fine cloaths, &c. they give you, are given out of love or regard to you; no! they are only as baits to catch fish; they mean to enslave you thereby, and entail that curse upon your children, after you, who will have reason to repent the day you begot them; be assured they are your inveterate, implacable enemies, and only wish, for a difference to arise between you and us, that they may put you out of their way, by cutting you off the face of the earth.

4thly. Fall upon a method of collecting each nation into a compact body: where you have good land, and a good situation, there fortify your castle in such a manner, as you may be able to defend yourselves, against any number with small arms: above all things, be unanimous in your councils, and also in the field.

5thly. If at any time your brethren the English, or any of your Indian allies, are injured or threatened from any quarter, the whole body of the confederacy should rise, and endeavour to bring about an honourable accommodation; but if your enemy should not hearken to reason, but still persist in acting unjustly, then the whole body should, as one man, join their arms against the enemy; by which means, you will always be able to bring them to what terms may be thought proper: you will, in that state, be a terror to the French, who now, well knowing your unsettled, divided disposition, at every turn of the wind, use threats and menaces against you. Be not afraid of them; cleave to your brethren the English, and they cannot hurt you.

6thly. If you duly observe these wholesome admonitions, you will again become numerous, and retrieve your pristine fame. Then, the very name of the six nations, and their allies, will be a terror to their enemies! and their arms will carry conquest with them, as heretofore.

7thly. But, brethren and friends, if you continue any longer in your past, lethargic and supine state, and neglect this my friendly advice, and earnest desire, I greatly fear you will, sooner or later, have cause to repent it, and wish too late you had followed it. Let all your youngest people hear what I say, and your men and women seriously consider it; and let your and their memory witness for me, that I have given you all this timely and wholesome advice.

Take this pipe to your great council-chamber at Onondago, let it hang there in view; and should you be wavering in your minds at any time, take and smoke out of it, and think of my advice given with it, and you will recover and think properly.

Gave the largest pipe in America, made on purpose.

As it is now late, I shall deliver you the present I have got, made on purpose for you, to-morrow morning; by which time, I hope to have your definitive answer, to the points I now spoke to you upon.

Ended here.

The answer of the Six nations, February 24th, 1756.

Red Head, speaker.

Present,

The hon. William Johnson,	Capt. Butler, and other Indian officers,
The Rev. Dr. Ogilvie,	
The Rev. Mr. Hawley,	Three interpreters.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

You have very seasonably put us in mind of that superiority which we, by a series of conquests, have obtained over the Delawares, Shawanese and other; we are sensible of it, and therefore, no sooner did you send us the shocking tidings of their treacherous and barbarous behaviour, but we looked upon ourselves nearly concerned to interpose; we immediately dispatched a message to them, to enquire into the cause of this their unparelleled conduct; we backed this with a second message, with equal warmth; both proving abortive, we obtained an interview by the means of our brethren of Oneida. At this meeting, we reminded them of their subordination, we shook them by the hand and demanded the reasons of their conduct; we put them in mind how contrary this behaviour was to the covenant subsisting between the confederacy and the English; we told them, that our latest posterity would have reason to curse their action, and that it would give our brethren reason to suspect us all of treachery, while we so basely abuse the confidence they repose in us; we again and again desired they would immediately change their behaviour, at least, that they would suspend hostilities, 'till they heard from us at our return from this meeting: they seemed sensible of their fault, and promised they would cease committing any further hostilities.

A string of wampum.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We look upon you as one of our own body, and, therefore, as you have out of sincere regard to our common welfare, pressed upon us to put an effectual stop to the ravages and devastations made by our nephews the Delawares and Shawanese; we solemnly promise in the name of the sachems and warriors of the five nations, that we will use our utmost endeavour, to put a speedy and effectual stop to those unhappy proceedings; and it is the firm resolution of the whole confederacy, to conform themselves entirely to your reasonable request in this important point; but, as the Mohawks are the head of our confederacy, we leave the management of that affair entirely to them. We sincerely wish, that the great Spirit, who governs all things, may succeed them in this important undertaking, as it will greatly contribute to our mutual happiness and strength.

This confirmed with a large belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

The Missisagas acknowledge a message sent them by General Shirley last year, giving them an invitation to meet him at Oswego: they answer, that the season of the year was too far advanced to admit of a meeting then; but that, they promise to come early in the spring, and be attentive to what their brethren the English have to say.

They desired that this string might be kept at Onondago, lest it might be intercepted by the French; for, should they be acquainted with their design of meeting the English, they feared they would fall upon and destroy them.

A string of wampum.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

Be attentive to what I now propose, they are the real sentiments of the five nations, not meerly the sounds of their breath, but the genuine resolutions of their hearts. Look upon this belt[1] as a pledge of our inviolable attachment to you, and of our unshaken resolution, of joining you in all your measures: our determinations are founded upon clear conviction, as clear as that sun that now shines in the firmament. We shall send this belt to the Senecas, that from thence it may be conveyed to the remotest nations, as an emblem of the happiness we enjoy by our union; at the same time kindly inviting them to come in and join our covenant chain.

Brother, you may depend upon this as our resolutions, which we will put into immediate execution.

What you have said, in regard to the trade, we look upon as a convincing proof of your love and affection to us, and it gives us pleasure that it now becomes a matter of serious consideration with you; we are sensible of your ability to supply us with all the necessaries of life cheaper and better than the French can possibly do: indeed, brother, there is nothing you should more seriously attend to, as it would greatly tend to cement that friendship that subsists between us, and would be the most likely means of bringing in the most remote nations to an acquaintance and union with us.

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[1] "This belt was the largest ever given! upon it was wrought the sun, by way of the emblem of light, and some figures representing the six nations; it was intended to signify, that they now saw objects in their proper light, and that they were fully convinced of the truth of every thing proposed." [Ed's note.]

A prodigious large belt!

The general had frequently insisted upon knowing their resolutions, with respect to the ravages committed by the Delawares &c. This paragraph is intended as an apology, for their not making their answer sooner.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

You have most earnestly and frequently pressed us to accommodate that unhappy breach, between the Delawares and our brethren the English; our delay did not proceed from any backwardness on our part, but from the great sense we had of its importance: we hope you have received satisfaction upon that head, by the great belt we just now delivered with so much solemnity and sincerity.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

You have acquainted us, that the great King, our Father, is firmly resolved to defend our country, and recover such parts of it, as the French have encroached upon; also, to protect us to the utmost of his power, by erecting forts for our safety and defence; we are grateful for this insistance of his goodness; but have not yet concluded any thing with regard to the latter.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

You have informed us, that the governor of New York has a present for us, from the great king, our Father, we are thankful for it; but are afraid, that as it comes so soon upon the back of this meeting, it will be inconvenient for our aged people to attend; but our warriors shall come upon that occasion.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

As you have given us a large pipe, to be a constant memorial of the important advice you have given us, when you are dead and gone, and to smoke out of it, at our public meeting-place, when we jointly and maturely reflect upon our engagements; we assure you, we shall hang it up in our council-chamber, and make proper use of it upon all occasions; we likewise beg, that you on your part, will likewise seriously consider your engagements, and faithfully perform them.

The general concluded with the following words:

Brethren,

I do not think you have been so explicit, with regard to what I proposed to you, concerning your keeping open a clear road to Oswego, as I could wish.

They made the following apology:

Brother Warraghiyagey,

With respect to the article relative to the keeping open the road to Oswego, we imagined our answer was contained in our general reply, wherein we assured you, we would support and assist each other, upon all occasions; but as you did not look upon that sufficient, we now assure you, that we shall punctually conform to your desire, herein.

The General added:

The present waits your acceptance. As there has been frequent complaints, with respect to the division of the presents given at these public meetings, it is my earnest desire, that they may be so divided, as to prevent all jealousy and complaints.

He then delivered them a very handsome publick present; which, together with the private gifts, to the several chiefs and sachems, amounted to,

York currency [1]£1085 9 8½.

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[1] "Upwards of £620 sterling." [Ed's note.]

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE[1]

Copy[2]

At a private meeting of the Oneidas nation,

February 25th, 1756

Canaghquaeson their speaker, spoke as follows:

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We, some time ago, applied to General Shirley, to have a fort built, for the security of our castle; we now acquaint you with our unanimous resolution of having one, and should be glad it could be accomplished as soon as possible, and that you will be particularly careful, in the choice of those you employ in that work; and to charge them strictly, by no means, to bring any spiritous liquor among our people, as they are very ungovernable and turbulent when intoxicated by liquor.

A string of wampum.

Brethren,

As I have general orders to build forts, for the safety and protection of any of our brethren of the six nations; I do, with the greatest chearfulness comply with your request, and shall immediately employ proper persons to that purpose: I am convinced it must be the fault of those people, whom General Shirley employed, that it was not done sooner, for he had given orders for that purpose so long ago as last October.

Then the Tuscarora chief spoke,

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We have some time since set up stockadoes for the defence of our castle, as we were, and are still, apprehensive of the

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[1] At Fort Johnson.

[2] Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 50–52.

French acting against us in a hostile manner; we as yet want some blockhouses, to make it the more defensible, and some soldiers to garrison it, which we hope will be readily granted us we acknowledge the receipt of the swivels and ammunition, you so seasonable sent us; for which, we return you our hearty thanks.

Brethren,

I shall represent your case to General Shirley, who, I doubt not, will readily grant you a sufficient number of men to garrison your fort; and as to the blockhouses you desire, when I go to Oswego, I shall point out a proper situation for them, and then order them to be built.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE[1]

Copy[2]

[*Feb. 25–26, 1756*]

At a meeting of the Kanuskago-Indians, February 25th, 1756.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We the warriors of the Kanuskago, upon our arrival, informed you, we were come down merely to see you, and hear your words at this publick meeting; as we are young and unexperienced, and have never been at any meeting with the governor, we hope you will make a kind allowance, for our want of ability in speaking; and we beg leave to assure you, that the reason of our never attending the meetings before, was not the want of affection to the English, but was entirely owing to our remote situation, which prevented a timely and proper notice.

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[1] At Fort Johnson.

[2] Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 52–55.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

As goods are vastly dear and ordinary in our parts, upon our determination to come to this meeting, we thought proper to bring some skins and furs with us, in order to purchase some necessaries for ourselves and families; and we beg you will, as a brother, direct us where we may be supplied with the best, and upon the most reasonable terms.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We beg leave to assure you, nothing can give us more satisfaction than the speech we heard you deliver to the six nations, on our arrival; as it contained nothing but what is quite right, and has a direct tendency to our welfare, we think our time well spent in coming down; for, if we had not, probably we should not have heard all you have said, for we are convinced, from what we now heard you say, that our sachems heretofore, have smothered the greatest part of your former advices; and we assure you, we shall now spread your advice among all our people, who are considerably numerous.

Threw down a pack of skins.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

As we are warriors, we are not acquainted with the ceremonials of publick meetings, and, therefore, express what we have to say, in a narrow compass; we have no more to offer at present, and hope, you will excuse the trouble we have given you on this occasion.

And so ended.

Brethren,

I have given attention to your words, and shall seriously consider your desire; but cannot give you an answer until to-morrow; I chuse to deliberate maturely upon every thing that I say, because my word once given, is as binding as cement to a stone.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We return you thanks, for your kind promises, of considering our desire, and as we see you are crowded, and full of business, of more importance, we shall with patience wait your leisure.

February 26th, 1756.

Brethren,

I told you last night, that I paid due attention to what you had said, and would consider your request, and give you answer this day. In the first place, I assure you, it gives me no small pleasure to hear, that my speech was so agreeable to you, and that you would acquaint all your nation with the contents of it. I beg you will not fail in this particular, as it points out, what will make you a happy people, if duly attended to; which, from your unanimity and zeal at this conference, I have no reason to doubt. I am sorry you have not been duly invited to former meetings, agreeable to my orders, and promise that for the future you shall have proper notice; and I hope you will be always ready to assist us, both in the council and the field, with all the chiefs and warriors of that castle, who shall be treated as friends and brethren.

Brethren,

In the next place, as I have no goods to sell myself, I will take all possible care that you are not imposed upon in your trade, at Schenectady. I shall give directions to Mr. Stevens, the interpreter, to assist you, and see that justice be done you, in every respect, for I have a great regard for your castle, and as a proof of it I present you with these goods.

> Giving them at the same time a handsome present, and three silver gorgets to three of their principal warriors, viz. Tarrawariax, Tahononsaronwe, and Kindarundy, who was the chief.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We return you our hearty thanks, for all your kind expressions of affection, and love shewn to us at this time; and we in return assure you, that you may depend on our sincerity and

readiness to serve you, whenever you call upon us; and you know very well, that whatever warriors promise is sacred.

Brethren,

I return you thanks for your sincere professions of friendship.

And so parted.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE

Copy[1]

At a meeting of the Six Nations, *February 26th, 1756.*

Brother Warraghiyagey,

It was yesterday agreed upon by us, that our eldest brother, the Mohawk, should take upon him, to settle that unhappy affair, between the Delawares and our brethren the English; but, on more mature deliberation, having the thing so much at heart, we have now, unanimously agreed, that the several delegates, from the six nations, should use their utmost endeavours to accommodate that difference; and, depend upon it, we shall lose no time, for we shall immediately dispatch a messenger to them by the Skaniadaradighronos and Oneidas, and desire them, to meet us at Otsineange, where the council is to be held.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We have, agreeable to your repeated desire, kept a good look out, and daily watch the motions of the French; we must acquaint you, that they have lately sent a message to our brethren, the Cayougas, to let them know their resolution, of attacking Oswego, and desiring their opinion upon it: hereupon, three of their sachems, and seven of their young men, are gone to Niagara, with a design to forbid the French attacking Oswego, of any

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[1] Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 52.

Indians, they may see, joining them; we daily expect their return, when you shall immediately hear what they have done.

A belt.

Brethren of the six nations,

I greatly approve of the alteration you have made, in the method of accommodating that unhappy breach between the Delawares and your brethren the English, as it must certainly have greater weight now, as it is the act of the whole body, and the more likely to succeed; I look upon this, as a very considerable proof of the unanimity and zeal, that you have expressed at this present meeting.

A belt.

Brethren,

I must repeat to you, that I am extremely pleased at, and much obliged to you for the kind intelligence, you have given me, of the designs of the French attacking Oswego, and desire you will continue that vigilance, and let me have every information you can, relative to the proceedings and motions of the French; as nothing can contribute more to the defeating all their designs, than our having constant and good intelligence. I wish your brethren of Cayouga, may succeed in their intentions, of indeavouring to prevent any Indians, they may see, joining the French; but as they can do nothing without their assistance, I doubt of their success; however, it is good to try what can be done in that case; but be that as it will, we do not fear what the French can do, neither should you, after the strong and many assurances, we have given you, of his Majesty's protection and friendship.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are now ready to return home, as all affairs, for which we came here, are settled to our satisfaction, and we hope to yours; we shall finish, with assuring you, we will strictly act up to every thing agreed upon at this meeting, and hope you will do the same.

So ended the congress.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE[1]

Copy[2]

February 27. 1756.

At a meeting of the Onondagas.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We, the Onondagas, very readily embrace this opportunity offered us, of having a fort built for the protection of our castle; and upon our return home, shall chuse a proper situation for it; as soon as the season of the year will permit, we beg you will not delay to send proper workmen to build it. As we have for some time past had an acquaintance with lieut. Mills, we should be glad to have him as our officer. And as William Printup understands the Indian language well, it would be agreeable to us to have him reside with us, as a smith, and at the same time to serve as an interpreter between the officer and us.

Brethren,

I shall acquaint general Shirley with your desire, and make no doubt he will comply with it. The fort shall be built with all possible expedition; and whatever officer is posted in it, will no doubt have particular orders, to be careful of your safety, and to treat you with all the marks of affection and friendship.

Ended.

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[1] At Fort Johnson.

[2] Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart, and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 55.

FROM GEORGE CLINTON

L. S.[1]

London Hill Street 27th Febry. [*1756*]

DEAR SIR

The last letter I had from you was by Doct Shugborough,[2] which I answered, and have from time to time Since continued my repeated recommendations of you to the Ministry. In consequences of which you obtaind your appointment by Genl. Braddock, from my representing that No Man in North America was equal to your power and abilities to make the Indians hearty in the çause of the Crown, and I am Extreamly glad to find that my Endeavours for your Service have Succeeded So well, and that the Ministry have not rested them. But as a reward for your late conquests at Lake George, have not only Complimented you with Honours, but have in the most publick manner granted you £5000 by way of compensation for that, and former Services among the Indians, from my informing them you had Expended a very considerable Sum on that acct. for which the Assembly of New York woud make you no kind of Satisfaction tho' it was justly their Debt.

I have also the Satisfaction to hear, that the Governmt. have granted you £600 a Year as Superintendant and Commissary of the Indians and that you are to have a Commissn. as Colo. of those Nations, which altogether must make you perfectly Easie, and gives me great pleasure as it does in Some measure make amends for your Uncles Severe treatment.

I cannot pass over unobserved the close connexion I see you have had with Wraxal; who has been the worst and most ungrateful of all Men to me, and I thought you had known enough of his base conduct not to Employ him upon any

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[1] In Historical Society of Pennsylvania, Philadelphia, Pa.

[2] Dr Richard Shuckburgh.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Wednesday February 4th: 1756.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell	Benjamin Chew	Esquires
Richard Peters	Thomas Cadwalader	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

A Meſsage was delivered to the Governor last night by Two Members that the House was met and desired a Copy of the Summons, and were ready to go on Busineſs. The Governor told the Members, that he would send a Meſsage in the morning to the House; and as what he should then communicate to them was of great Importance he left it to them to proceed immediately upon the Consideration of it, or to wait for a fuller House.

The following Meſsage from the Governor to the Aſsembly was read, approved and sent to the House, with one of the Writs for summoning the Aſsembly.

Gentlemen

As the Season for Military Preparations is far advanced, I judged it neceſsary, as soon as the Busineſs I was engaged in with the Commiſsioners upon the Frontiers would admit of my Attendance in Town, to call you together to consider of the Plan of Operations concerted in the late Council of War at New York, for the Security of his Majesty's Dominions on this Continent. I have directed the Secretary to lay the Plan before you, but as it is in its Nature secret, and the Execution of it may, in some Measure be frustrated, if it should be divulged, I must recommend it to you not to suffer any Part of it to transpire.

The many Incroachments made by the French upon his Majesty's Territories, contrary to the Faith of Treaties, and in the Times of profound Peace; the Measures they have taken to secure the Poſseſsion of the Countries they have seized, and to disturb us in the Enjoyment of the narrow Limits which they would prescribe to us, sufficiently shew what we are to expect from those restleſs and ambitious People; if we do not, by a united, vigorous and steady Exertion of our Strength, dislodge them from those Incroachments, and confine them within their own just Bounds: And this I am persuaded you will find the best and most effectual Way of securing the Inhabitants of this and the other Colonies against the cruel Insults of them and their Savage Allies. I must therefore recommend it to you to grant such Supplies as may enable me to furnish what is expected from this Province towards the general Service. As you are sensible our Succeſs will very much depend upon our being early in motion, I make no doubt you will use the greatest Diligence and Dispatch in whatever Measures your Zeal for the Public Cause may induce you to take upon the present Occasion.

Since

Pennsylvania. 1756.

Since the last Seſsion, every thing has been done that the Time would admit for the Defence and Security of the Province, and I have the Satisfaction to tell you, that a Chain of Forts and Block Houses, extending from the River Delaware along the Kittatinny Hills, to the Maryland Line, is now almost compleat. They are placed at convenient Distances from each other, and at the most important Paſses thro' the Mountains, and are garrisoned with Companies and Detachments, all in the Pay of the Province, from seventy five to twenty Men each, according to the Situation and Importance of the Places; and if the Officers and Men posted there do their Duty, I believe they will prove a sufficient Protection to the Inhabitants against such Parties as have hitherto appeared upon our Borders.

I have also directed the Secretary to lay before you the Minutes of the several Conferences held with the Indians at Carlisle, and other Papers relating to Indian Affairs; together with a Letter I lately received from Scarroyady and Andrew Montour, who were sent by me on a Meſsage from this Government to the Six Nations, and to the Indians living on the Sasquehannah, by which it appears that the Bulk of the Indians on that River are in the French Interest, and seem determin'd not to hearken to any thing the Six Nations may say to them in our Behalf. The Heads of these Nations have been convened by the timely Care and Orders of General Shirley, and are now met in Council to treat on these and other Matters. I am informed they greatly disapprove of the Conduct of the Delawares & Shawonese, and seem inclinable to chastise them for taking up the Hatchet against us; and I am in great Hopes that the Warmth with which General Shirley hath recomended this Matter to them, may induce them to act vigorously for us on this Occasion.

Robt. H. Morris

February 4th 1756.

The following Papers were also sent to the House with the foregoing Meſsage, being referred to, among other Papers, in the same.

A Letter from General Shirley to General Johnson.

New York December 7th 1755.

Sir

You already know, I have the Honour to be appointed Commander in Chief of all his Majesty's Forces in North America with the same Powers as the late Major General Braddock had the Command.

Inclosed is the Eighth Article of his Majesty's Instruction to me concerning India Affairs, which is a Copy of that and the only Instruction which General Braddock had, relating to that Matter; you will find it refers to some Appointment of you to the Service therein mentioned, supposed to be made by his Majesty, before General Braddock left England. If you have received such a Commiſsion, you will act in Pursuance of it, according to the Instructions you may have received with it; and such farther Instructions as I do now or shall hereafter send you. In case you have received no such Commiſsion; you will then act in Pursuance of the Commiſsion which I send you herewith, by Vertue of the Power given me by his Majesty, and founded upon the Words and Intents of his Royal Instructions; looking upon the Indians called there the Northern Indians to be intended of those of the Six Nations, and whatever Allies they may have to the Northward.

Inclosed are general Instructions for your Guidance and Directions in the Execution of your Trust; and some calculated for this Occasion, to which I refer you, and to the inclosed Papers containing an Account of Governor Morris's Intelligence and Proceedings relating to the Shawnese, Delawares and other Indians therein mentioned, and of his Meſsages to the several Tribes of the Six Nations, which last mentioned Papers will throw Light upon the Service I propose now by directing you to proceed to those Castles.

You will let me know by the Return of this Expreſs whether you have receiv'd any other Commiſsion than that from the late Major General Braddock relative to the Care of the Indians, and how far I may depend upon your acting under the inclosed Commiſsion and Proceeding on the Service I now direct you to go upon; that in case you shall decline, I may otherwise provide against his Majesty's Service being disappointed by that means.

If the advanced Season of the Year or your State of Health will not suffer you to go as far as the Onondago's Castle, you will then transact the Busineſs by proper Meſsages to such of them as you can not Personally go to.

As the effectual Execution of the Trust reposed in you will, on many Accounts, require my having an Interview with you, as soon as the Busineſs I now direct you to do will admit, I must desire you to let me see you at Boston this Winter some time before the Month of March at farthest. I am

Sir

Major General Johnson.

Your most humble Servant

W. Shirley

(L.S.)

The Speech of his Excellency Major General William Shirley General and Commander in Chief of all his Majesty's Forces in North America To the Sachems and Warriors of the Indians of the Six Nations.

Brethren,

The great King of England your Father having committed to me the Command of all his Forces raised and to be raised upon the Continent of North America, and in a particular Manner commanded me to protect your Country and the Lands which your Forefathers have conquered and are of Right your Territories against all Violence and Attempts of the French our common Enemy, and to cultivate a strict Friendship and Alliance between him and you, I take the first Opportunity of communicating this to you by Major General Johnson, whom I have now ordered to visit you, and take Care of your Interest.

Brethren,

Since I came to this Place I have heard much News, which concerns you as well as all the English, and therefore do now send General Johnson to you to speak my Mind to you.

Brethren,

Perhaps you think the Weather looks somewhat cloudy, the French are proud, and have for sometime past been very insolent, more so than is fit for you and us to bear; they threaten more, but be not frighted, I am not so, they are but few, we are many, they are but a handful, we will all take up the Hatchet against them; it behoves you Brethren to be wise, and to remain stedfast to your old Friends the English: the Great King of England is determined not only to protect you as well as his Subjects in America, but to chastise the French for their repeated Insolencies.

Brethren,

The Governor of Pensilvania hath informed me, that he has sent a Message to you of great Importance by Scaroyady and Andrew Montour, I hope you have heard them with Attention, and have considered well what they said.

Brethren,

The Indians called the Delawares and Shawonese who live in and near Pensilvania have for a long time past lived in Friendship with the People of that Province, Maryland and Virginia; these People have always treated them as Friends and Brothers, and yet they have without any Provocation and without giving any Notice taken up the Hatchet against them and stuck their Tomahawks in them whilst they lay asleep in their Beds, not expecting any Harm from them, they have killed and scalped Numbers, they burnt their Houses and Barns, and have killed their Horses and Cattle.

Brethren,

The People of Pensilvania were always a peaceable People, they did not love War, not because they were weak, and not able to fight, they are strong and have great Numbers of Men; this Behaviour of the Delaware and Shawonese Indians hath made them resolve to fight, and they will have Revenge.

Brethren,

The Indians the Delawares and Shawonese always lived under your Direction; they looked upon you as their Masters, and you looked upon them as Women who wore Petticoats; they never dared to do any thing of Importance without your Leave: for they knew if they did you would chastise them; yet those People have now dared to make War upon your antient Friends.

Brethren,

It behoves you to join heartily with the People of Pensilvania in punishing those Indians, for unless you do, we can't but think you have given them Leave to do what they have done; and if they have not your Leave, yet it behoves you the more to punish them, if you don't, they will dare look you in the Face, they will think themselves as good Men as you, and you will lose the Name of being their Masters.

Brethren,

I must again desire you will join in chastising these Indians, that you will send some of your Warriors against them, that they may know you are still our Friends, that you are Men and that they are but Women.

Brethren of the Onondagos and Cayugas,

When I saw some of your chief Sachems and Warriors at Oswego, your Hearts and my Heart seemd to be one, you promised to be true Friends to the English, and to join with us against our Enemies the French, and I promised to do all in my Power to protect you against the French; you desired I would build a Fort in your Country, which I will do, as soon as the Weather is fit for Men to work, you also promised to send some of your Sachems to meet me next Spring at Oswego.

Brethren of the Oneidos,

Some of your chief Sachems and Warriors met me in my Way from Oswego at the great Carrying Place; I desired them to tell me whether your Nation would join heartily with us against the French, but they told me they could not give any Answer, till they had consulted the rest of your Sachems and Warriors; you desired me to send you a Number of Men to build you a Fort, which I understood was to be for you and the Tuscoreras; I sent you a Number of Men to build you a Fort, but I have heard that they went away, since which I have sent more Men to you for that Purpose, and those they have almost finished it.

Brethren of the Mohawks,

In my Return from Oswego I had not Time to stop at your upper Castle at Conejoharie, but I sent my Secretary and some of my Officers there, to condole with you for the Loss of your great Sachem Hendrick and other Warriors at Lake George, and to wipe away your Tears, and enquire after your Health: I visited your lower Castle, where your chief Sachems and Warriors there told me, that they and we were one, that our Enemies were their Enemies, and that when the Hatchet was lifted up against our Head, it was against their Head.

Brethren of the Six Nations,

It is now your Time to resolve, whether you will join heartily with the English against their and your Enemies. I told you before that the Great King of England is determined to chastise the French and all those who join with them, and for that Purpose I am now raising a great Army to go against them early in the Spring; if you join heartily with us the Work will be easy, your Country will then remain in Peace to you, and the neighbouring Nations will know that you are still able to conquer them.

Minutes of a Council of War held at New York December the 12th: 1755

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Wednesday, February 4th, 1756.

PRESENT:

The Honourable **ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS**, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell,	Benjamin Chew,	Esquires.
Richard Peters,	Thomas Cadwalader,	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

A Message was delivered to the Governor last night by Two Members that the House was met and desired a Copy of the Summons, and were ready to go on Business. The Governor told the Members that he would send a Message in the morning to the House, and as what he should then communicate to them was of great Importance he left it to them to proceed immediately upon the Consideration of it or to wait for a fuller House.

The following Message from the Governor to the Assembly was read, approved, and sent to the House with one of the Writs for summoning the Assembly:

"Gentlemen,

"As the Season for Military Preparations is far advanced, I judged it necessary as soon as the Business I was engaged in with the Commissioners upon the Frontiers would admit of my Attendance in Town, to call you together to consider of the Plan of Operations concerted in the late Council of War at New York for the security of his Majesty's Dominions on this Continent. I have directed the Secretary to lay the Plan before you, but as it is in its Nature secret, and the execution of it may in some Measure be frustrated if it should be divulged, I must recommend it to you not to suffer any Part of it to transpire.

"The many Incroachments made by the French upon his Majesty's Territories, contrary to the Faith of Treaties and in the Times of profound Peace, the Measures they have taken to secure the Possession of the Countries they have seized, and to disturb us in the Enjoyment of the narrow Limits which they would prescribe to us, sufficiently shew what we are to expect from those restless and ambitious People if we do not by a united, vigorous, and steady Exertion of our Strength, dislodge them from those Encroachments and confine them within their own just Bounds, And this I am persuaded you will find the best and most effectual Way of securing the Inhabitants of this and the other Colonies against the cruel Insults of them and their Savage Allies. I must, therefore, recommend it to you to grant such Supplies as may enable me to furnish what is expected from this Province towards the general Service. As you are sensible our Success will very much depend upon our being early in motion, I make no doubt you will use the greatest Diligence and

Dispatch in whatever Measures your Zeal for the Public Cause may induce you to take upon the present Occasion.

"Since the last Session everything has been done that the Time would admit for the Defence and Security of the Province, and I have the Satisfaction to tell you that a Chain of Forts and Block Houses, extending from the River Delaware along the Kittatinny Hills to the Maryland Line, is now almost compleat. They are placed at convenient Distances from each other, and at the most important Passes thro' the Mountains, and are garrisoned with companies and detachments all in the pay of the Province, from seventy-five to twenty Men each, according to the Situation and Importance of the Places, and if the officers and Men posted there do their Duty, I believe they will prove a sufficient Protection to the Inhabitants against such Parties as have hitherto appeared upon our borders.

"I have also directed the Secretary to lay before you the Minutes of the several Conferences held with the Indians at Carlisle, and other Papers relating to Indian Affairs, together with a Letter I lately received from Scarroyady and Andrew Montour, who were sent by me on a Message from this Government to the Six Nations, and to the Indians living on the Sasquehannah, by which it appears that the Bulk of the Indians on that River are in the French Interest, and seem determin'd not to hearken to any thing the Six Nations may say to them in our Behalf. The Heads of these Nations have been convened by the timely Care and Orders of General Shirley, and are now met in Council to treat on these and other Matters. I am informed they greatly disapprove of the conduct of the Delawares & Shawonese, and seem inclinable to chastise them for taking up the Hatchet against us; and I am in great Hopes that the warmth with which General Shirley hath recommended this matter to them, may induce them to act vigorously for us on this Occasion.

"ROBT. H. MORRIS.

"February 4th, 1756."

The following Papers were also sent to the House with the foregoing Message, being referred to, among other Papers, in the same:

A Letter from General Shirley to General Johnson.

"NEW York, December 7th, 1755.

"Sir:

"You already know I have the Honour to be appointed Commander-in-Chief of all his Majesty's Forces in North America, with the same Powers as the late Major General Braddock had the Command.

"Inclosed is the Eighth Article of his Majesty's Instruction to me concerning Indian Affairs, which is a Copy of that, and the only Instruction which General Braddock had relating to that Matter; will find it refers to some Appointment of you to the Service therein mentioned, supposed to be made by his Majesty before General Braddock left England. If you have received such a Commission, you will act in Pursuance of it according to the Instructions you may have received with it, and such farther Instructions as I do now or shall hereafter send you. In case you have received no such Commission, you will then act in Pursuance of the Commission which I send you herewith, by Vertue of the Power given me by his Majesty, and founded upon the Words and Intents of his Royal Instructions; looking upon the Indians called there the Northern Indians to be intended of those of the Six Nations and whatever Allies they may have to the Northward.

"Inclosed are general Instructions for your Guidance and Directions in the Execution of your Trust, and some calculated for this Occasion, to which I refer you, and to the inclosed Papers, containing an account of Governor Morris' Intelligence and Proceedings relating to the Shawonese, Delawares, and other Indians therein mentioned, and of his Messages to the several Tribes of the Six Nations, which last-mentioned Papers will throw Light upon the Service, I propose now by directing you to proceed to those Castles.

"You will let me know by the Return of this Express whether you have received any other Commission [than that from the late Major General Braddock relative to the Care of the Indians], and how far I may depend upon your acting under the inclosed Commission, and Proceeding on the Service I now direct you to go upon, that in case you shall decline I may otherwise provide against his Majesty's Service being disappointed by that means.

"If the advanced Season of the Year or your State of Health will not suffer you to go as far as the Onondago's Castle, you will then transact the Business by proper Messages to such of them as you cannot Personally go to.

"As the effectual Execution of the Trust reposed in you will, on many accounts, require my having an Interview with you as soon as the Business I now direct you to do will admit, I must desire you to let me see you at Boston this Winter, some time before the Month of March at farthest.

"I am, Sir, Your most humble Servant,

"W. SHIRLEY.

"Major General JOHNSON."

[L. S.] "*The Speech of his Excellency Major General William Shirley, General and Commander-in-Chief of all his Majesty's Forces in North America.*

"*To the Sachems and Warriors of the Indians of the Six Nations:*

"Brethren:

"The great King of England, your Father, having committed to me the Command of all his Forces raised and to be raised upon the Continent of North America, and in a particular Manner commanded me to protect your Country and the Lands which your Forefathers have conquered, and are of Right your Territories, against all violence and attempts of the French, our common Enemy, and to cultivate a strict Friendship and Alliance between him and you, I take the first opportunity of communicating this to you by Major General Johnson, whom I have now ordered to visit you, and take Care of your Interest.

"Brethren:

"Since I came to this Place I have heard much news which concerns you as well as all the English, and, therefore, do now send General Johnson to you to speak my Mind to you.

"Brethren:

"Perhaps you think the Weather looks somewhat Cloudy, the French are proud, and have for some time past been very insolent, more so than is fit for you and us to bear; they threaten more, but be not frighted, I am not so; they are but few, we are many; they are but a handful, we will all take up the Hatchet against them. It behoves you, Brethren, to be wise, and to remain stedfast to your old Friends, the English; the Great King of England is determined not only to protect you as well as his Subjects in America, but to chastise the French for their repeated Insolencies.

"Brethren:

"The Governor of Pensilvania hath informed me that he has sent a Message to you of great Importance by Scaroyady and Andrew Montour. I hope you have heard them with Attention, and have considered well what they said.

"Brethren:

"The Indians called the Delawares and Shawonese, who live in and near Pensilvania, have for a long time past lived in Friendship with the People of that Province, Maryland, and Virginia. Those People have always treated them as Friends and Brothers, and yet they have without any Provocation and without giving any Notice taken up the Hatchet against them and stuck their Tomahawks in them whilst they lay asleep in their Beds, not expecting any Harm from them. They have killed and scalped Numbers. They burnt their Houses and Barns, and have killed their Horses and Cattle.

"Brethren:

"The People of Pensilvania were always a peaceable People. They did not love war, not because they were weak and not able to fight, they are strong, and have great numbers of Men. This Behaviour of the Delaware and Shawonese Indians hath made them resolve to fight, and they will have Revenge.

"Brethren the Indians:

"The Delawares and Shawonese always lived under your Direction. They looked upon you as their Masters, and you looked upon them as Women who wore Petticoats. They never dared to do anything of Importance without your Leave; for they knew if they did you would chastise them; yet those People have now dared to make War upon your antient Friends.

"Brethren:

"It behoves you to join heartily with the People of Pensilvania in punishing those Indians, for unless you do, we can't but think you have given them Leave to do what they have done; and if they have not your leave, yet it behoves you the more to punish them. If you don't they will dare look you in the Face. They will think themselves as good Men as you, and you will lose the name of being their Masters.

"Brethren:

"I must again desire you will join in chastising those Indians, that you will send some of your Warriors against them, that they may know you are still our Friends, that you are Men, and that they are but Women.

"Brethren of the Onondagos and Cayugos:

"When I saw some of your chief Sachems and Warriors at Oswego, your Hearts and my Heart seemed to be one. You promised to be true Friends to the English, and to Join with us against our Enemies the French, and I promised to do all in my Power to protect you against the French. You desired I would build a Fort in your Country, which I will do as soon as the Weather is fit for Men to work. You also promised to send some of your Sachems to meet me next Spring at Oswego.

"Brethren of the Oneidas:

"Some of your chief Sachems and Warriors met me in my way from Oswego, at the great Carrying Place; I desired them to tell me whether your Nation would join heartily with us against the French, but they told me they could not give answer till they had consulted the rest of your Sachems and Warriors. You desire me to send you a Number of Men to build you a Fort, which I understood was to be for you and the Tuscororas; I sent you a Nūmber of Men to build you a fort, but I have heard that they went away, since which, I have sent more Men to you for that purpose, and I hope they have almost finished it.

"Brethren of the Mohawks:

"In my Return from Oswego I had not Time to stop at your upper Castle at Conejoharrie, but I sent my Secretary and some of my Officers there to condole with you for the Loss of your great Sachem Hendrick and other Warriors at Lake George, and to wipe away your Tears and enquire after your Health. I visited your lower Castle, where your chief Sachems and Warriors there told me that they and we were one, that our Enemies were their Enemies, and that when the Hatchet was lifted up against our Head it was against their Head.

"Brethren of the Six Nations:

"It is now your Time to resolve, whether you will Join heartily with the English against their and your Enemies. I told you before that the Great King of England is determined to chastise the French and all those who join with them, and for that Purpose I am now raising a great Army to go against them early in the Spring. If you join heartily with us the Work will be easy, your Country will then remain in Peace to you, and the neighboring Nations will know that you are still able to conquer them."

Minutes of a Council of War held at New York, December the 12th, 1755.

"At a Council of War held by his Excellency WILLIAM SHIRLEY, Esquire, General and Commander-in-Chief of all his Majesty's Forces in North America, at New York, on Friday the 12th of December, 1755.

"PRESENT:

"His Excellency WILLIAM SHIRLEY, Esquire, General, &ca.

"His Excellency Sir CHARLES HARDY, Knight, Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of New York.

"The Honourable HORATIO SHARPE, Lieutenant Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of Maryland.

"The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Pensilvania.

"The Honourable THOMAS FITCH, Governor and Commander in Chief of the Colony of Connecticut.

"Colonel Thomas Dunbar.

"Major Charles Craven.

"Sir John St. Clair, Deputy Quarter Master General,

"Major James Kinneer.

"Major John Rutherford.

"The General's Commission being read, together with Part of a

Letter to him, dated the 28th of last August, from the Right Honourable Sir Thomas Robinson, one of his Majesty's Principal Secretarys of State, and Part of his Majesty's Seventh Instruction to the late General Braddock; several Points of Rank, which were moved by some of the Members of the Council, were settled, after which his Excellency adjourned the Council to the next Day at 9 o'clock in the afternoon.

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"Saturday, December 13th, 1755.

"The Council met according to adjournment.

"Present as before, together with Col. Peter Schuyler.

"His Excellency acquainted the Council that he had convened them to give their opinion and advice upon a Plan of Operations, which he proposes for the next Year's Campaign, in order to effect the several Services he is directed by his Majesty's Instructions to carry into Execution; That in order to inform them fully of the State of those Services, it was necessary for him to acquaint them, that in his Majesty's said Instructions it is declared:

"'1st. That whereas the French would in all Probability endeavour to reinforce the several Posts they have on the River Ohio, and on the Lakes, to the Westward of it, by sending Troops up the River Mississippi; it was his Royal Will and Pleasure, that as the Season would allow Troops to take the Field much sooner in the Southern Parts than in any other Parts of his Colonies, they should begin his Operations there as soon as the Weather would permit; and was, therefore, ordered to direct the Troops under his comand, to be carried up the River Potomack, as high as Willis' Creek, in order to proceed to Fort Du Quesne.

"'2dly. That as soon as the late General should have been able to drive the French from their Posts upon the Ohio, he should take proper Measures for erecting a good and sufficient Fort on the most convenient Pass upon the said River, and to leave a strong Garrison consisting of the Three Independent Companies then in Virginia, sustained by such a Part of the whole of the Provincial Troops as he shall find necessary to defend the same and to protect the Indians in those Parts as well as the Settlements which had been broke up.

"'3dly. That the next Service which his Majesty directs and declares to be of the greatest Importance, and, therefore, to demand the utmost Care and Attention, is the dislodging the French from the Forts they have at the Falls and Passes of the Niagara, and the erecting such a Fort there as shall for the future make his Majesty's Subjects Masters of the Lake Ontario, and that if for this Purpose the said late General Braddock to have Ships upon the said Lake Ontario, he should concert with the Commander-in-Chief of his Majesty's Ships and the Governors of New England and New York, the

Manner and Means of Building and manning such Vessels as shall be most proper for that Service.

"'4thly. That it is in the said Instructions, declared to be his majesty's further will and Pleasure, that in order to accelerate the Execution of so salutary an undertaking, the said General Braddock should, in case the Regiments intended to be rais'd by Governor Shirley and Sir William Pepperel should be ready to act before the French could be drove from their Posts on the Ohio, to employ the said Two Regiments in the immediate Reduction of Niagara and Crown Point.

"'5thly. That in case the said two Regiments of Shirley and Pepperel's should not be raised and ready to act till the Time that the Service on the Ohio should be finished, it is declared to be his Majesty's Will and Pleasure that if then the said General Braddock should find it necessary to march his whole Force to make himself Master of the Posts before mentioned at Niagara, he should take the most prudent Means of joining his said Force with the British Battallions to effect the most essential and necessary Service.

"'6thly. That if the said General Braddock should find that the two British Regiments would be sufficient for performing the Service at Niagara, he might then employ the Two American Regiments at the same time in dispossessing the French from their Posts at Crown Point on the Lake Champlain, which was the next Post he was to endeavour to gain; but that no positive Instructions could be given him on this head, as he could only judge hereafter, whether such a separate Operation could be undertaken at the same time that he was making himself Master of the most material one at Niagara; however, that after he should have possessed himself of the Niagara Forts, and should have opened a safe communication betwixt that and Oswego, it was his Majesty's Will and Pleasure, that the next Service which he should proceed upon should be.

"'7thly. The Reduction of the Fort at Crown Point and erecting another upon the Lake Champlain, in such Place as he should find most effectual for bridling the French Indians in those Parts, and for securing and protecting the neighbouring Colonies. His Excellency thereupon observed to the Council that the Reasons assigned in his Majesty's Instructions for ordering General Braddock to begin his operations upon the Ohio, seems to be principally founded on some Information which had been given that the Support of the French Forts and Settlements upon that River, is drawn from their Settlements upon the Mississippi.'

"His Excellency the General then acquainted the Council that none of the attempts made for effecting the beforementioned Services in the last Summer had been carried into Execution; but that these several beforementioned Parts of the Expedition ordered by his Majesty remained to be executed in the ensuing Spring.

"His Excellency then observed to the Council the only practicable Entrance which his Majesty's Subjects have into the Lake Ontario, is at Oswego thro' the River Onondago, which is the only Harbour fit to receive Vessels of any Force that his Majesty hath upon that Lake, and that Oswego is situated in the Country of the Onondagos, which lies in the middle of that inhabited by the Six Nations, and is the only trading House the English have for carrying on a Commerce and Correspondence with the western Indians.

"That the only practicable Entrance the French have into the same Lake, is thro' the River by them at first called the River Iroquois, but in some of their late maps the River St. Lawrence, and near Fort Frontenac, which is situated on the North-East Edge of that Lake, at about 50 miles distant from, and nearly opposite to Oswego. That whilst the French are in Possession of that Fort and the Harbour there, with a free Passage into the Lake thro' the River Iroquois, together with their Harbour at Fronto on the Lake, they will have it in their power to build and maintain Vessels of Force upon the Lake, which, unless his Majesty shall keep up at least an equal naval Force there, may not only greatly annoy any Fort which should be erected by his Majesty's Subjects at the North-East End of the Pass at Niagara, but endanger the Loss of Oswego itself to the French, which would inevitably be attended with the Defection of the several Castles of the Indians of the Six Nations to the French Interest in a short Time, and with the Loss of the whole country as far as Schenectady, and very possible be soon followed with the Loss of the City of Albany.

"That from the best Information he can procure, it appears to him that the French Forts and Settlements at Niagara, upon Lake Erie and the Ohio, and even as far as Missilimackinack, upon the Lake Huron, are wholly supported with Stores and Provisions from Mont Real, by Water Carriage thro' the River Iroquois and across the Lake Ontario, and not from the French Settlements on the Mississippi, which being at near the Distance of 200 Miles from any of them, are too remote to afford them any Support, especially as the Navigation from thence to the French Settlements on the Ohio is against the Stream, and attended with other Difficulties in many Places.

"That consequently the dislodging the French from Fort Frontenac and their small Fort at Fronto, and barring up their Entrance into the Lake of Ontario, thro' the River Iroquois, would cut off All their Forts and Settlements upon that and the other Lakes and the River Ohio, from all Support from Canada, without which they could not possibly long subsist.

"That, therefore, his Excellency proposes the following Plan of Operations for the ensuing Year, viz.:

"'That a Body of 5,000 Troops should be assembled at Oswego by the last week in April, and Fort Frontenac and La Gallette, upon the River Oswegatie, be attack'd with 4,000 of them in the Beginning of May, leaving 1,000 at Oswego for the Protection of that Place.

"'That after dislodging the French Troops at Cadaraqui and La Gallette, they should be employed in attacking the French Forts and Settlements at Niagara, Presqui Isle, the River au Bacuf, Detroit, and Missilimackinac, and to secure the several Posts there; That 3,000 Troops should at the same time be marched to Fort Du Quesne by Land from Wills' Creek to attack that Fort.

"'That Crown Point should be at the same time attacked with 6,000 Troops; a Fort afterwards built on lake Champlain, and one or more Vessels built to navigate that Lake; and in order to divide the Force of Canada more effectually, after breaking up all French Settlements upon the River Chaudiere with 2,000 Troops, about the same Time to make a Feint with them on Quebec at the Mouth of the said River, which is within three miles distant of that Metropolis, situated on the opposite Side of the River St. Lawrence.'

"His Excellency then desired the Opinion and advice of the Council upon every Part of the proposed Plan, and particularly whether the Number of Troops proposed for carrying every Part of the said Expedition into Execution at one and the same Time was sufficient, or whether any less or greater, and what number might be sufficient to do it.

"His Excellency then observed to the Council that if the before-mentioned Attempts for the Reduction of the French Forts and Settlements upon the Lake, and the Ohio and Crown Point, should not be made at the same Time, but one of them only carried on at a Time, these Dangers would ensue, vis$^{t.}$: If an attempt should be made upon the lake Ontario for the Reduction of the Forts at Cadaraqui and Niagara, &$^{ca.}$ without any against Crown Point, the French would either lend the chief Part of the whole Force of Canada to oppose it, in which case so large a Body of Troops would be required to encounter it there as would make the Transportation of them and their Stores and Provisions to Oswego in time almost impracticable; or else the French would muster so Strong a Force against Albany as might take it, and by that means likewise cut off all communication between it and the Forces at Oswego, which must receive its whole Support of Stores and Provisions from thence.

"On the other Hand, if an attempt should be made for the Reduction of Crown Point only, and not against Fort Cadaraqui, Niagara, &$^{ca.}$ at the same Time Oswego, which from the Intelligence gained at that Place appears to be the great object of the French, would be in danger of being lost to them in case they should bend their principal Force against it, which Loss would be an irretrievable one to the English, as it would not only be the Loss of the Country as far as Albany, together with the Six Nations, but give the French the Dominion of the Great Lake of the whole Southern Country.

"His Excellency then acquainted the Council that immediately before his Departure from Oswego, as well as since, he had received Intelligence that the French are building at least Three large Vessels of Force in the Harbour of Cadaraqui, which together with those they had already built, will be much superior to those built by us on the Lake; whereupon he likewise desires the Opinion and Advice of the Council Concerning his causing more Vessels to be built and of a larger Force upon the Lake than what his Majesty hath there already, and how many such Vessels it is necessary to have built for gaining the Mastery of that Lake.

"The Council after taking the several Matters into Consideration, gave it as their unanimous Opinion:

"'1st. That it is most essentially necessary at all Events to secure the Navigation of the Lake Ontario, and from the Intelligence the General has informed them he has already received of Vessels building by the Enemy at Fort Frontenac, that at least three Vessels be built immediately at Oswego, of as large a Size and Force as the Depth of the Water at the Entrance of the Harbour of Oswego will admit, and that on any future Intelligence of the Enemy's encreasing their Naval Force, that the General should build such and so many more Vessels as he finds necessary for securing the Mastery of that Lake.

"'2dly. That one Expedition be carried on against Crown Point, and another against the French Settlements and Encroachments on Lake Ontario, and that both Armies rendezvous at their respective Places of Destination as soon as possible in the Spring.

"'3dly. That an Army of 10,000 Men will be necessary for the Expedition against Crown Point.

"'4thly. That an Army of 6,000 Men at least will be necessary for the Expedition against the French Encroachments on the Lake Ontario, &ca.

'"5thly. That as to the attempt proposed to be made upon Fort Duquesne, they are unanimously of Opinion that such a Measure would answer very good Purposes by availing the English Forces of the Assistance of that Part of the Southern Indians which are still in alliance with them, and preventing those in Alliance with the French from opposing our Operations to the Northward, and therefore advise the General to recommend it to the Western Governments to undertake an Attempt upon that Fortress, and do it in such a manner as will not in the least interfere with the Expedition already agreed on.

"'6thly. That as to the Feint with 2,000 Men against Quebec, by the way of the River Chaudiere, they are unanimously of Opinion that it should be carried into Execution, provided it can be done without Prejudice to the other Parts of the Service already agreed on.

"'7thly. That with Regard to the Operations on Lake Ontario, it was the Opinion and Advice of the Majority of the Council that they be begun by the Attack of Cadaraqui.

"'Lastly. The Council considering the Several Services to be carried on in North America, are unanimously of Opinion that an additional Number of Regular Troops will be necessary for the effectually recovering and securing his Majesty's Rights and Dominions upon this Continent.

"'WM. SHIRLEY,
"'CHAS. HARDY,
"'HOR$^{O.}$ SHARPE,
"'ROB$^{T.}$ H. MORRIS,
"'THO$^{S.}$ DUNBAR,
"'PETER SCHUYLER,
"'CHA$^{S.}$ CRAVEN,
"'JOHN ST. CLAIR,
"'JAS. KINNER,
"'JOHN RUTHERFORD.

"'A true Copy.

"'W^{M} ALEXANDER, *Sec'y.'*

"Proportions of the 10,000 Men proposed to be rais'd for the Crown Point Expedition, according to the Plan settled by Commissioners at Albany:

"Maryland, - - - - -	1,000
"Virginia, - - - - -	1,750
"Pensilvania, - - - - -	1,500
"New Jersey, - - - - -	750
"New York, - - - - -	1,000
"Rhode Island, - - - - -	500
"Connecticut, - - - - -	1,250
"New Hampshire, - - - -	500
"Massachusetts, - - - - -	1,750
	10,000

"*General Shirley's Proposals for Measures to be taken by the Western Governments from Pensilvania to South Carolina, both inclusive.*

"'*By his Excellency Major General WILLIAM SHIRLEY, General and Commander-in-Chief of his Majesty's Forces in North America, &$^{ca.}$*:

"'Upon taking into his Consideration the very great Importance of the numerous Nations of Indians in Alliance with his Majesty's Southern Colonies, the Advantages that will accrue to the English in general from their Friendship, and the particular Necessity there is at this Time to enter into a solemn Treaty with them, in order not only to secure them to the British Interest so far as to prevent them from joining in the Designs of the French, but to engage them to assist his Majesty's Subjects in defending their Frontiers and annoying their Enemies, It is proposed,

"'1st. That a Treaty be held with the several Tribes of Indians in Alliance with his Majesty's Southern Colonies at such Time and Place as shall be agreed on between the Governments of South and North Carolina, and notified by them to the General and to the other Western Colonies as far North as Pensilvania.

"'2dly. That one or more Commissioners should be appointed by each of the Western Provinces from South Carolina to Pensilvania, both inclusive, to carry on that Treaty in behalf of his Majesty and of those Colonies, to be particularly instructed by their respective Governments for that Purpose.

"'3d. That such Instructions be without Delay transmitted to the General, and that he or the Commander-in-Chief of the King's Forces for the time being give such further Instructions to the Commissioners, collectively or separately, as he shall think necessary for his Majesty's Service.

"'4. That the Governments of Virginia and the Two Carolinas, as soon as possible, dispatch Messengers to those Southern Tribes, inviting them to a general Treaty in his Majesty's Name and in the Names of all the said Western Provinces, And that the Time and Place agreed on for such Treaty be particularly mentioned in such Invitation.

"'5. That at such appointed Place Provision be made for the Reception and Entertainment of the Indians that may attend the Treaty by the Province wherein such Place is, to be afterwards reimburs'd in Proportion by the other Colonies.

"'6th. That Money be provided by the said Western Provinces for defraying the Expence of the Treaty, and for providing a proper assortment of Goods to be given in Presents to the Indians that shall attend and sent into their Countries to be distributed among those that cannot personally assist at the Treaty.

"'7th. That the Commissioners be instructed to engage those Tribes to assist the English in the present Dispute and to take up the Hatchet against the French and their Indians, and that they be enabled to promise English Pay and Provisions, Arms, Ammunition, and Indian Cloaths, to such of their Warriors as shall join his Majesty's Forces, or the Troops in the Service of any of the said Western Provinces; and as to such of them as shall incline to attack the French upon the Ohio, or any of the Indians in their alliance, to promise them certain Rewards for every Prisoner or

Scalp they shall bring in, and to appoint certain Places to which such Scalps or Prisoners shall be brought.

"'8th. That Proper Persons be appointed by the Commissioners to return with the Indians from the Treaty into their own Country, if necessary, to conduct the warriors to such Places as shall be appointed for their Rendezvous, where Stores of Provisions, Arms, and Ammunition should be provided for their use.'"

A Letter from Governor Dinwiddie to Governor Morris.

"VIRGA., WILLIAMSBURG, Jany. 2d, 1756.

"Sir:

"I congratulate you on your Assembly's being roused from their Lethargy and their voting 60,000 for the Service of the Expedition against the Common Enemy. As you are now enabled, I hope you will plan out Operations for next Spring, and I shall be ready to join in every thing for the Public Service.

"Some time since the Cherokees sent four of their Headmen to me, assuring me of their steady Friendship to their Brothers, the English. I sent them from this with new cloaths and Some Presents; sent a Person with them, and I represented the cruel Barbarities committed by the French and Indians in our back Settlements; when they were properly convinced thereof, they took up the Hatchet and declared War against the French and Shawonese, and sent into Augusta County 130 of their Warriors to protect our Frontiers. These People proposed going to attack the Shawonese in their Towns, which I approved of, ordered four Companies of our Rangers to join them, and sent them up some Powder, Lead, and Matchcoats, and gave Directions for Provisions. I wish Success may attend it, as probably it may reclaim some of our friendly Indians that have joined the French, and encourage Twightwees to be our Friends, when they find the Southern Indians are in our Interest. However, I thought it absolutely necessary to send Commissioners to the Catawbas and Cherokees, to confirm them to our Interest; two of the Council have condescended to go, and with them have sent a Present to both those Nations, and to press the Catawbas to take up the Hatchet against the French and their Indians, and then to enter into a strict Treaty of Peace, offensive and Defensive, with them; and endeavour to have them ascertain the number of Warriors they will supply us when occasion—the last Message from them they proposed 1,000 Men; but there will be more certainty if included in the Treaty. And if anything is to be done in the Spring, I think they will be of very great Service, but must wait with Patience the Determinations at home, with Orders how to act. There appears some distant Views of Peace, if so, I wish it may be an honourable one; but in my private Opinion

I think it is very unlikely after the vast Preparation and Charges the Nation has been at, and the French desire nothing sooner, as it will give them time to concert Measures to oppress these Colonies, and to execute their Designs against us that have been determined so many years.

"We have had an Importation of Neutrals from Nova Scotia, which is very disagreeable to our People, as they are bigotted Papists; however, we have received them, as we suppose the dispersing of them to the different Colonies is intended for a general good; we support them till March, after that they must work for their sustenance.

"Your Militia Law is very inconsistent with any Rules for an Army, and I forsee many inconveniences from it; you probably think, as I do, that it is something better than none. If your People will incorporate with Spirit, probably, when joined with other Forces, they may comply and submit to their Regulations. I send you enclosed the Acts passed the last Session of our Assembly; the first is a Mutiny bill, pretty similar to that for his Majesty's Forces.

"I shall be glad how soon you can inform me of your Instructions in regard to next Campaign; you know the sooner we are in Action the better. I wish you Health and Happiness, and am, with great Regard,

"Sir, Your most obedient humble Servant,

"ROB$^{T.}$ DINWIDDIE.

"GOV$^{r.}$ MORRIS."

A Letter from Governor Sharpe to Governor Morris.

"ANNAPOLIS, January the 24th, 1756.

"Sir:

"I return you thanks for forwarding to me by Express the Packet that you was kind enough to bring from General Shirley to Philadelphia, and for the Civilities I received at your Hands during my Stay in that City. Since my return hither, I have received a Letter from Governor Dinwiddie, advising me that 130 of the Cherokees have been prevailed on to take up the Hatchet against the French, and that in Conjunction with some Companies of the Virginia Rangers, they are gone to attack one of the Shawonese Towns; he also informs that two Gentlemen of his Council, who have been with a considerable Present to the Catawba and Cherokee Nations, have made a League with them both, and engaged them to send 1,000 Warriors in the Spring, to act in Conjunction with the Forces that may be employed in this Part of the Continent against His Majesty's Enemies. I should be glad to hear what has been the Event of your Interview with the Indians you had appointed to meet, and also what Measures have been taken for the

Protection of your Frontiers; at what Places the Commissioners have order'd Forts to be built, what Number of Men they propose to garrison them with, and whether they will furnish and support any Troops for carrying on another Expedition to the Westward, as well as their Quota for the Expedition to Crown Point. Our Assembly meets the 20th of next month, when I shall lay before them the Plan of Operations that was concerted at N. York, and I flatter myself they will contribute something towards carrying it into Execution, at the same time I shall recommend to them the building some Forts at proper Places on our Frontiers, whence Parties from the Garrisons may be detached occasionally to patroll between those that shall be raised on the Frontiers of your Province, and such as shall be built in Virginia on Potomac River. With the greatest Regard,

"I am, Sir, Your most humble and most obedient Servant,

"HOR$^{o\cdot}$ SHARPE.

"Gov$^{r\cdot}$ Morris."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Tuesday, February the 10th, 1756.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell, John Mifflin, } Esqrs.
Joseph Turner, Thomas Cadwalader, }

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

Mr. Weiser's Report of his Proceedings with the Indians at John Harris' Ferry was read in these Words:

By Order from his Honour the Governor of Pennsylvania:

"*Journal of the Proceedings of Conrad Weiser with the Indians at John Harris' Ferry in January*, 1756:

"29th. Set out from my House with a hired Man—arrived at Harris' Ferry the 30th, being rainy Weather; met the Indians that Evening, acquainted them that I was sent by the Governor of Pennsylvania with a Message to them. Next morning was appointed for me to deliver it, Aroas being not at home.

"31st. Early in the morning we met in the Belt's Cabbin. There was present the Belt, Garisdooncy, Jagrea, Newcastle. They desired me to repeat to them the Speech the Governor made to them in Carlisle a few Days ago, laying before me the two Belts they received there from the Governor. I made answer that I could not depend upon my Memory, and that I had no Copies of those Papers relating to it. They must excuse me till another Opportunity; however the principal heads they remembered. A Messenger was

I think it is very unlikely after the vast Preparation and Charges the Nation has been at, and the French desire nothing sooner, as it will give them time to concert Measures to oppress these Colonies, and to execute their Designs against us that have been determined so many years.

"We have had an Importation of Neutrals from Nova Scotia, which is very disagreeable to our People, as they are bigotted Papists; however, we have received them, as we suppose the dispersing of them to the different Colonies is intended for a general good; we support them till March, after that they must work for their sustenance.

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"HOR^{o} SHARPE.

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"*Journal of the Proceedings of Conrad Weiser with the Indians at John Harris' Ferry in January*, 1756:

"29th. Set out from my House with a hired Man—arrived at Harris' Ferry the 30th, being rainy Weather; met the Indians that Evening, acquainted them that I was sent by the Governor of Pennsylvania with a Message to them. Next morning was appointed for me to deliver it, Aroas being not at home.

"31st. Early in the morning we met in the Belt's Cabbin. There was present the Belt, Garisdooney, Jagrea, Newcastle. They desired me to repeat to them the Speech the Governor made to them in Carlisle a few Days ago, laying before me the two Belts they received there from the Governor. I made answer that I could not depend upon my Memory, and that I had no Copies of those Papers relating to it. They must excuse me till another Opportunity; however the principal heads they remembered. A Messenger was immediately sent for Aroas, who arrived in a few hours after. I then delivered the Message from the Governor with the addition that I could not leave the Place before I saw two of them set off. It was imediately agreed that Aroas (by us called Silver Heels) and David, a Mohock Indian, should prepare for the Journey to Neskopecka, &ca. Accordingly on the Second of February they set off in the morning, being rainy weather. They desired me to send John Davies and Thomas Grimes along with them over Peters' Hill to Robert Armstrong's Place, the last Settlement now, to conduct them safe, which I did. I sent also a String of Wampum all white to Jonathan, John Shikcalamy, and his Brothers, to invite them to come to my House if they could be found; gave a written Pass to Aroas and David, and ordered them to carry a Silk Handkerchief upon a Stick on their Return, and that only two should come before and keep the Path. The old Belt gave them a long Lesson. They all looked very serious. Aroas said he would be back in ten days or in 15 at farthest; if not then we might think he was dead, So far as to the Message.

"On the 31st of last Month one James Young came over from Tobias Hendrick's and told me privately in the Presence of John Harris that above 15 Men with Arms came that Day to Tobias Hendrick's in order to come to this Side of the River to kill the Indians at John Harris'. Judging them of being guilty or privy to the Murder committed a few days ago in Sherman's Valley, and that he had much ado to stop them, and desired me to take all the care possibly I could. I thereupon sent a Letter with said Young Express to the Magistrates and the Principal Inhabitants in Carlisle to desire them to caution the People of Cumberland against such imprudent Behaviour, of which nothing but a general War with all the Indians could be the Issue. A copy of their Answer is hereunto annexed. I took for granted what they said, and sent imediately another Express by James English and Jagrea (now called Satacaroyies) to bring the Indians that remained in Carlisle since the last Treaty away to John Harris' Ferry, there to remain with the rest till the Governor's Order should be known. I wrote to those Gentlemen to hire a Waggon for the Indians if needful.

"I thought it not prudent to inform the Indians of this Affair; but Several People that came from over the River knew of it and the Indians came to hear of it. I had a good deal of Trouble to quiet their Minds (if I did at all). Satacaroyies and Newcastle went to Michael Taef's that night, and Newcastle got in the night light headed; he looked upon every Person as an Enemy, and would persuade Satacaroyies to run away with him—he himself made off privately next morning and had not been heard of when I left John Harris', which was on the 2d Instant in the Afternoon. Michael Taeff and Satacaroyies declared before me that he had no Liquor, and I am persuaded Satacaroyies would not have come back so sober in the morning as he did if they had had any Liquor. I sent Word all about to the People to take care of the said Newcastle if he should be seen any where; he had no Arms with him.

"I think it highly necessary that the said Indians should be taken care of deeper within the Inhabitants; for should they suffer by our foolish People, we should lose all Confidence and Honour with the rest of the Indians. Submitted to his Honour, the Governor, his Council, and the Assembly,

"By their faithful Indian Interpreter,

"CONRAD WEISER.

"Dated at Heidleburg, February 4th, 1756."

A Letter from Capt. Jacob Morgan to Col. Weiser, dated at Fort Lebanon, the 6th February, 1756, was read in these words:

[This letter does not appear on record.]

MEMORANDUM.

On the Sixth of February Two Members waited on the Governor and requested he would be pleased to let the Assembly know if there were any Grounds for the Complaint of the Senecas, as if some of their Warriors were killed at Conewago, and favour them with a copy of his answer to Governor Hardy; And the Governor readily informed the Members that he had done all in his Power to come at the Foundation of this Complaint, had wrote both to Governor Hardy and Sir William Johnson about it, and would send Copies of those Letters to the House. At the same time the Governor desired the Members would take to the House a Letter he had received from Governor Hardy of the 30th of January last, with a copy of sundry Resolves of the Assembly of New York, made on the 28th of the Same Month of January, which follow in these Words:

A Letter from Governor Hardy to Governor Morris.

"FORT GEORGE, New York, 30th January, 1756.

"Sir:

"Having recommended to the Assembly to this Province to provide for the raising and subsisting one thousand Men to act in Conjunction with the other Colonies in the proposed attempt upon the French Fort at Crown Point the ensuing Spring, agreeable to the Opinion of the Council of War lately held in this city by his Excellency General Shirley. I have the Pleasure to inform you that they very readily came into the Measure, and I inclose you a copy of their Resolution upon it, not doubting but the Assembly of your Government will chearfully raise their Quota of Men for this necessary Service, whose Resolutions I should be glad to be informed of as early as possible.

"I am, Sir, with great Esteem, Your most obedient and humble Servant,

"CHA^s. HARDY.

"Governor MORRIS."

—

Resolves of the Assembly of New York.

"Assembly Chamber, the 28th January, 1756, P. M.

"The House resolved itself into a Committee of the whole House upon his Excellency's Message of the 27th Instant. After some Time spent therein, Mr. Speaker resumed the Chair, and Mr. Thomas reported the Resolutions of the Committee thereon, which he read in his Place, and afterwards delivered in at the Table, where the same were again read and are as follow, vis^t:

"'*Resolved*, That it is the Opinion of this Committee, that for raising, paying, and subsisting one thousand effective Men, Officers included, and including the Forces in the Pay of this Colony now in Garrison at Fort Edward and Fort William Henry, to act in Conjunction with the neighbouring Colonies in making an Attempt upon the French Fort at Crown Point, in the ensuing Spring, there be allowed the Sum of forty thousand Pounds.'

"And the said Resolutions being read a second time.

"'*Resolved*, That the House doth agree with the Committee in the said Resolutions.'

"'*Ordered*, That Mr. Cornell and Mr. Thomas wait on his Excellency with the foregoing Resolutions.'

"By Order of the General Assembly.

"ABR^M. LOTT, jun^r. Cl'k.

"A true Extract. Examined By

"GEO. BANYAR, D. Sec'ry.

"New York."

—

MEMORANDUM:

Several Companies formed on the Plan of the late Militia Act made return of their Officers, and Commissions were accordingly made out by the Governor; and as he heard they would apply for Field officers, he ordered that Lists of the officers forming those Regiments should be carefully entered in the Council Books.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Friday the 13th of February, 1756.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell, Thomas Cadwalader, } Esquires.
John Mifflin,

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor informed the Council that he had received an Address from the Assembly, who at the same time sent him an Extract from major General Shirley's Letter to Col. Dunbar, dated the nineteenth of September last, from the Camp at Oswego, both which were read and ordered to be entered as follows:

"*To the Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor of the Province of Pennsylvania, &ca.*

"*The Address of the Representatives of the Freemen of the said Province, in General Assembly met:*

"May it please the Governor:

"The House being informed by Petition from the Masters, that a great Number of bought Servants are lately inlisted by the Recruiting Officers now in this Province, and clandestinely or by open Force conveyed away to the very great Oppression of the said Masters, and Injury to the Province; we beg Leave to lay this Grievance before the Governor.

"We presume that no one Colony on the Continent has afforded more free Recruits to the King's Forces than Pennsylvania. Men have been raised here in great numbers for Shirley's and Pepperell's Regiments, for Halket's and Dunbar's, for the New York and Carolina Independent Companies, for Nova Scotia, and even for the West India Islands. By this, and the Necessity we are under of keeping up a large Body of Men to defend our own extensive Frontiers, we are drained of our hired Labourers; and as this Province has but few Slaves we are now obliged to depend principally upon our Servants to assist us in tilling our Lands. If these are taken from us, we are at a Loss to conceive how the Provisions that may be expected out of this Province another year, for the Support of the King's Armies, are to be raised.

"We conceive that this Province could not possibly have furnished the great Numbers of Men and Quantity of Provisions it has done for the King's Service, had it not been for our constant Practice of importing and purchasing Servants to assist us in our Labour. Many of these, when they become free, settle among us, raise Families, add to the number of our People and cultivate more Land, and many others who do not so settle are ready and fit to

(1st) That there be a Federal Union among all the Colonys on the Continent of America, by which, every Colony shall be obliged to furnish such a Quota of Men and Money as shall be Stipulated by the Articles of Union; And this Quota (when demanded) shall be immediately furnished under Severe Penaltys, in all Wars Offensive and Defensive.

N:B: This may be Executed (by Act of Parliament) either with or without a Governor General and General Council, but it would be more effectual under the Direction of a Governor General and General Council.

(2d) The five Indian Nations (who at present are Neuters) ought by any means to be obliged to renounce their Neutrality, and to Join with the British in a League Offensive and Defensive; But if there should be a hazard of making them become Enemys by forcing them to this Step, then they may be allowed to remain Neuter, provided they will Send Embassys to the ffrench Indians to let them know, that if they (the ffrench Indians) will remain Neuter, they (the five Nations) will also remain Neuter, and leave the War wholly to the British and ffrench; But if the ffrench Indians will not remain Neuter, that then they (the five Nations) will Join in an Alliance Offensive and Defensive with the British.

It is to be observed, that the five Nations and the ffrench Indians are generally in a State of War, and the British have no Counterpoise against the ffrench Indians, but the Alliance of the five Nations.

N:B: One of these Steps is absolutely necessary to be taken, for if the five Nations continue in a State of Neutrality, unless the ffrench Indians do the Same; the ffrench and their Indian Allys will (upon the first future Quarrell) become too powerfull for the five Nations and entirely Subdue them, or oblige them to become an Ally, which is a Point the ffrench have lways had in View. If this should happen, the British ll not have One Indian Nation their friend, but the — hole Indians must become their Enemys and Act in — onjunction with the ffrench. How such an Event would ffect the Colonys is too Obvious.

The reason why the ffive Nations embrace at present Neutrality, is, because they are so much afraid of the rench who are in a manner in possession of their Country, nd they make use of this Neutrality as a present palliating emedy, but do not foresee that it must Ruin them in time, r they must Join in Alliance with the ffrench.

To Remedy this.

3d) The most effectual way of Distressing the ffrench, is, o take the fforts Niagara and ffrederic or ffrontenac, the ormer on the South End of Lake Ontario, the Latter on the rth end thereof where it falls into the River St Lawrence; By this method, the ffrench Communication with the lower Lakes, e River Ohio, and the Missisippi is in a manner absolutely ut off, and the five Indian Nations are freed from the — rench Encroachments.

N: B: To make and Preserve this Conquest, it is absolutely cessary that We should be Masters of the Lake Ontario y our Vessels of War, in Order to prevent the ffrench in all mes hereafter from Sending Troops that way.

These fforts are of much more Consequence at present, an the ffort of Crown Point, and their Reduction ought to be ndertaken preferable to anything else; for upon their — eduction, all the Little ffrench Forts and Settlements upon the ower Lakes, and the Ohio, must fall of course, and that — xtensive Country be entirely freed from the ffrench.

The ffort of Crown Point is by much a Stronger ffort han either of the former two, and would Cost a great Deal of

Time and Men to Reduce it, nor is it of that Consequence to the Brittish at present, unleſs they were resolved to take Quebeck.

It is true, that though the Forts Niagara and Frederic are taken and in the Brittish Poſseſsion; Yet it is still poſsible for the French to maintain a Communication with the Miſsisippi, by going up the Three Rivers (which fall into the River St Lawrence below Fort Frederic) from thence into the Upper Lakes, from thence into the upper Branches of the Miſsisippi River; But this Navigation is so difficult, and the Carrying Places so many and so Long, that no Commerce can be carried on to Advantage.

By this Route the French formerly Traded with the Western Indians and the Miſsisippi, but finding the Difficultys great, they Sought for an Easier Paſsage, and found the Head of the Ohio River near the Lake Erie, by which they have carried on their Communication with the Miſsisippi ever Since, and have endeavoured to maintain that same Communication by Erecting Forts and Settlements, tho' they are Conscious that Communication lyes within the Brittish Boundary; And if this Communication was again Cutt off, it does not seem Practicable that the French can Carry on any Commerce to Advantage between their Two great Settlements of Canada and Miſsisippi, and therefore theſe two Settlements must in all probability become of little Consequence and fall into Decay.

New Bond street, ffebry 12th

My Lord

I have taken the Liberty to Send you the Inclosed Pamphlet, which is Just published, and I think worth your Perusal, if You have not as yet Seen it.

As You are going upon that Scene of Action, it may possibly Afford You Some hints, to which as yet You must be a Stranger.

There is One thing I would Observe, and which I am afraid will prove a Certain Consequence, viz: that unless Ways and Means can be found, to prevail with the Six Nations to Act offensively against the ffrench, All your Endeavours to dispossess them of the Lower Lakes and the Ohio will prove ineffectual.

The dispossessing them of those Places, should be the Grand Point in View, and is the Surest Method by which the ffrench Interest can be most effectually Distressed.

If the Six Nations were taken into British Pay as Soldiers, and their Sachems or great Men appointed their Officers and Paid as Such, either with or without Commissions, and left to themselves to Annoy the ffrench in what manner they thought most proper, with a Premium for Scalping; It is possible this Method might Gain them and recover them to our Alliance; for they are a People who act as much from Self Interest, as any Other. Whether this Expedient would take with them, I know not, but I believe it has never yet been put in their Offer.

If this Expedient should take, they must be left to themselves, to Distress the Enemy in their own Way, and not put under any Command or

Military Law, for this they will not Bear.

If the Six Nations Reject our Alliance, there is great reason to fear, that all the Indians from One End of our Colonys to the Other, will in time become our Enemys. I am

My Lord

Your most Obedient Servt

William Shyrrne

Companies commiſsioned in each County be formed into and make one … Regiment, and to be called by the Name of each respective County; provided that there shall not be leſs than Eight Companies in each Regiment.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Monday the 16th February 1756.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell } Esquires
Richard Peters }

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

A Letter from Governor Hardy of the ninth Instant, inclosing some Indian Intelligence was read; and a Meſsage thereupon drawn by the Governor, approved and sent to the House; all which follow in these Words, vizt.

Fort George, New York 9th Feby 1756.

Sir,

I have the Favour of your Letter of the 2d Instant, and congratulate you on your Return from the Frontiers, and hope all the good Consequences will arise to the Province from the Chain of Forts and Blockhouses you have been at the trouble of forming.

The Complaint of the Senecas I doubt may be but ill founded, and I make no doubt Colo. Johnson will set this Matter in a clear and proper Light, and aſsure them of full Satisfaction, if, upon Enquiry, it shall appear the English have been the Aggreſsors; when he left this City I instructed him to this Purpose, knowing you was on your Tour; I have a Letter from him at Albany, inclosing me some Intelligence sent him by his Manager at Mount Johnson, and communicated to him by two Oneidas sent Expreſs from the Senecas, which I here inclose you; this Speech of the French Officer I am inclined to believe is intended more to intimidate the Indians, than to attempt the stealing of the Fort of Oswego, the Paſsage from Niagara at this Season of the Year must make such an Attempt too difficult to give them any hopes of Succeſs, by surprising a Fort defended by so strong a Garrison as General Shirley left there.

Colo. Johnson writes me that one of the Indians he sent to the Delawares (before he left home) requiring them to desist from all Hostilities against the English, returned and met him at Albany on his now going up, and acquainted him in Answer to his Meſsage, that they promised him no more Mischief should be done, and that they would wait the Result of his Meeting with the Six Nations, which he informs me is like to be very numerous, and that he hopes at this Meeting to put a Stop to the Indian Incursions on the back Settlements of your Province.

I propose going up the latter End of next month, if the Waters of

Hudson's River are open, to hold a Meeting with the Six Nations, to deliver to them his Majesty's Present; I have prevail'd on the Aſsembly of this Province to grant Money for an Addition to it, and as at this critical Juncture, all Measures should be taken to further and promote the British Interest with those Tribes, I must beg Leave to offer it to your Consideration, whether great Good may not arise from your Province taking some Notice of them at this Meeting; if such should be agreeable to you, it shall be my Care to inform the Indians of your Regard for them.

I do most sincerely wish you Succeſs in your Recommendation to your Aſsembly, upon the Plan of Operations concerted in this City, and hope from the Neceſsity there is of carrying the War into the Enemy's Country, you will have little Difficulty in prevailing on them to take a proper Share with the other Colonies; I am impatiently waiting the Return of my Expreſs from Boston, who carried the Resolutions of my Aſsembly to General Shirley, and the Eastern Governments.

The first Packet arrived here from England the 3d Instant; I have a long Letter from the Post-Masters General, desiring I will not detain her longer than Twenty Days after her Arrival, but in cases of Neceſsity and upon the Footing they are a detaining of her must be attended with a considerable Increase of Charge to the Government, as they are paid by the Voyage, with a Promise of Gratuity for extraordinary Incidents; I judged it proper to acquaint you with this Instruction to the Masters of the Packets, and the Post Masters General Request to me upon it, and as her allotted Time of Stay here appears to me to be so short for the Distant Governments answering their Letters, I propose, on her Return, to recommend a longer Time to the Post-Office. I am

Sir
Your most obedient
and humble Servant
Chas. Hardy

The Honble Govr. Morris.

Fort Johnson Jany 28th 1756.

Sir

Just now came here Two Oneidas Expreſs from the Senecas, and brought with them a large Belt of Black Wampum, 14 Rows broad and 2½ Foot long, who made the following Speech.

There is about 20 of the Oghquagy and Tuscororas here these eight days past, and about 30 more expected; the Expreſs says, there will be a vast Number of the Five Nations down; this goes by Expreſs, which the Indians insisted on. I am

Sir
Your most obedient humble Servant
Robt. Adems

Brother Warraghiyagee,

About 3 Weeks ago came a large Vessel to Niagara with a French Officer on Board, who enquired where his Children were who always kept there; for that he could not then see any of them.

Children,

The English have been threatening us all last Summer, about taking Niagara and Cataraqui Forts, which I dreaded very much, especially Niagara, which is to be compared to nothing else than a decayed Tree, which if a small Wind came would blow it down.

Children,

I have been at the defeating of the English at Ohio, and hearing of General Johnson's coming to Crown Point, immediately set off to meet him, when I first met his People, the Smoke of my Guns made such a Darkness before my Eyes that I could not see my Children, but marching a little farther, discovering Numbers of them lying dead in the Road, which made my Heart bleed, as I heard General Johnson had said he did not want his Brothers to fight, but to look on and see him fight.

Children,

I now tell you that I am going to steal Oswego from them, … and my Army that is coming is very numerous, and makes a great Noise.

I don't intend to listen any more to my Children; you have never heard me promise any thing but what I always fulfilled, and I desire you Children to keep from that Place they call Oswego.

Brother Warraghiyagee,

We the Sachems of the Five Nations now assembled at Onondago do now let you know, that we see Death before our Eyes, and that we send this Post to desire that there may be Men ready to send to the Relief of Oswego; for you may assure yourself the above is nothing but Truth.

A true Copy
Dan Claus

Onondago 23^{d}. of Jan^{y} 1756.

Sir

This is to acquaint you of the News that the Indians brought here, a Belt of Wampum which is come from Niagara, and desires our Indians that they should stand aside; that they would go to Oswego to take it within 10 or 12 Days; the French is to set out from Niagara to day or to morrow, as the Indians told me, and they desire me to write it to your Honour, to acquaint you with all Speed. The Indians are to go from here within 4 days, so no more at present but remain

Your humble Servant
John Van Sice

To The Hon^{ble} Major
Gen^{l}. Johnson

A true Copy examined by Benj^{a}. Barons Secretary

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A Meſsage from the Governor to the Aſsembly.

Gentlemen,

His Majesty, sensible of the great Importance it is to the British Interest, and to the Succeſs of our Schemes against the French, to preserve and improve our Friendship with the Indians, has been graciously pleased to order a considerable Present to be sent to New York for the Six Nations; and Sir Charles Hardy, proposing to go very soon to hold a Meeting with those Indians, to distribute among them that Present, with an Addition which he has prevailed on the Aſsembly of New York to make to it, has recommended it to my Consideration, in the Letter I herewith send you, whether at this critical Juncture, great Good may not arise from this Province's likewise taking some Notice of them.

The cruel Proofs and daily Experience we have of late had, how much it is in the Power of a few, even of the most inconsiderable, of those People, to do us irreparable Mischiefs when they are disposed to be our Enemies, make it needleſs for me to use any other Arguments to induce you to consider whether it will not be quite proper and neceſsary for this Province to make some Present now to the Six Nations, in order to keep up and strengthen our Alliance with them, and engage them to be more earnest and ready to aſsist us against these Savages that have done, and are still committing, the Murders and horrid Ravages amongst our back Inhabitants.

Robt. H. Morris

Philadelphia
February 16th. 1756.

Memorandum. The Twentieth of February, the Governor received the following Letter from General Shirley of the ninth Instant, and sent it to the House by the Secretary.

Boston February 9. 1756.

Sir

I have received a Letter of the 24th. of January last from the President of your Council, relating to the inlisting of indented Servants into his Majesty's Service. I should be extremely gld to have it in my Power to remove any thing that can be thought a Hardship on the Province of Pennsylvania; but the Restraint I had put upon the Officers inlisting Servants was not taken off till I was convinced by the Complaints of the Officers that his Majesty's Service must suffer, at this very critical Conjuncture, if they were restrained from inlisting such as voluntarily offer themselves; and at present the Number of Men wanting to complete his Majesty's Regiments on this Continent is so great, and the Time so short before they will be wanting for Service, that I can by no means renew any Order which shall retard the compleating of them.

I cannot conceive that the Distreſs arising from the inlisting a few Servants can be any thing like what the President and Council seem to apprehend; for the Number must be so trifling in Proportion to the Labourers in your Government, that it can have no visible Effect on the Province in general; and if any peculiar Instances of Hardship should happen to particular Persons thereby, I shall be always willing and ready to consider Circumstances on their being properly represented to me.

My own Government of the Maſsachusets Bay is so far from thinking it a Hardship that indented Servants should be allowed to inlist, that they not only chearfully consent to that, but have even impreſsed great Numbers of indented Servants for the Expedition against Crown Point: and it is the constant Practice to impreſs them as well as other Inhabitants for garrisoning our Frontier Forts, where they often remain several Years; nor is it uncommon in other Governments to do the same.

I am your Honour's most obedient
and most humble Servant
W. Shirley.

ON the same Day the Governor received a Bill from the House, intituled, An Act for dispersing the Inhabitants of Nova Scotia, imported into this Province into the several Counties of Philadelphia, Bucks, Chester and Lancaster, and the Townships thereof, and making Provision for the same, for his Concurrence; and likewise the following Meſsage, in answer to his last relating to the Indians.

May it please the Governor,

As Sir Charles Hardy does not propose to set out from New York, for the Meeting he intends to hold with the Six Nations, till the latter End of next Month, we apprehend no Inconveniences can ensue from our not giving a determinate Answer to the Governor's Meſsage of the Seventeenth Instant, which may be resumed as the Advices we now daily expect to receive from General Johnson may render it neceſsary.

By the Papers and Accounts the Governor has been pleased to lay before us on this Occasion, it appears that great Numbers of Indians were expected at the Treaty to be held with the Six Nations; and from General Johnson's Knowledge and known Abilities in conducting Indian Affairs, we may reasonably expect a happy Iſsue of that Treaty; but whatever it may be, we shall be better able to determine the Part this Province ought to act in this Matter, when

Scarroyady and Andrew Montour return with an Account of the Disposition of the Indians towards us at this critical Conjuncture, and the Result of General Johnson's Treaty with the Six Nations, which are now very soon expected.

February 20th: 1756.

Signed by Order of the House,
Isaac Norris, Speaker

At a Council held in the State House at Philadelphia Tuesday 24th: February 1756.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

James Hamilton
Benjamin Shoemaker
Richard Peters
John Mifflin

Robert Strettell
Joseph Turner
Lynford Lardner
Thomas Cadwalader } Esquires

Benjamin Franklin
Joseph Fox
John Hughes } Esquires

The Indians

Conrad Weiser Esquire, Interpreter. John Davison Aſsistant

Two of the Six Nation Indians Aroas and David the Mohock were sent at the Instance of the Governor up the River Sasquehannah to gain Intelligence of the Motions and Number of the Enemy Indians, and to try to find out the Shicklalamys and Jonathan Cayanquiloquoa, and bring them along with them; and Captain McKee, who had the Command of a Fort at Hunter's Mill near the Place where the Blue Hills croſs the Sasquehannah, had the Governor's Directions, as these Indians in their Return were desired to come that way, to keep a good look out for them, and to send them under an Escort to Mr. Weisers, to whom they were to deliver their Intelligence, and he was directed to send it by Expreſs to the Governor at Philadelphia.

Accordingly the two Indians returned by Captain McKees, and John Shicklalamy and his Wife with them, and were ordered a Guard to conduct them to Mr. Weisers, but they, especially John Shicklalamy, declared positively they would not go thro Tulpyhocon, being apprehensive that the Dutch would fall upon them, and either kill them, or do them a Mischief, but that they would go thro' Lancaster to Philadelphia, and deliver what they had to say to the Governor in Person, and insisted that Capt. McKee should go along with them to protect them. When they came to Harris's, they found there the Belt, Jagrea and Newcastle, who joined them, and when they came to Lancaster, John Shicklalamy, having a Sister among the Connestogoes Indians sent for her, and at Lanzaster she and the Connestogoe Indians joined them. On Saturday they came to Town, making in all Persons, Men, Women and Children.

On

Philadelphia, and the several counties in the Province, in order to fix the Mode of regimenting them, agreed that all the Companies commissioned within the city of Philadelphia be one Regiment, to be called the City Regiment, and that all the Companies commissioned in each county be formed into and make one Regiment, and to be called by the Name of each respective County, provided that there shall not be less than Eight Companies in each Regiment.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Monday the 16th February, 1756.

PRESENT:

The Honourable **ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS**, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell, } Esquires.
Richard Peters, }

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

A letter from Governor Hardy of the ninth Instant, inclosing some Indian Intelligence was read, and a Message thereupon drawn by the Governor, approved and sent to the House; all which follow in these Words, viz$^{t.}$:

"FORT GEORGE, 9th Feb$^{ry.}$ 1756.

"Sir:

"I have the Favour of your Letter of the 2d Instant, and congratulate you on your Return from the Frontiers, and hope all the good consequences will arise to the Province from the Chain of Forts and Block houses you have been at the trouble of forming.

"The Complaint of the Senecas I doubt, may be but ill founded, and I make no doubt Col$^{o.}$ Johnson will set this Matter in a clear and proper Light, and assure them of full satisfaction, if upon Enquiry, it shall appear the English have been the aggressors; when he left this city I instructed him to this Purpose, knowing you was on your Tour; I have a letter from him at Albany, inclosing me some Intelligence sent him by his Manager at Mount Johnson, and communicated to him by two Oneidas sent Express from the Senecas, which I here inclose you. This Speech of the French Officer I am inclined to believe is intended more to intimidate the Indians than to attempt the stealing of the Fort at Oswego. The passage from Niagara, at this Season of the Year, must make such an attempt too difficult to give them any hopes of Success, by surprising a Fort defended by so strong a Garrison as General Shirley left there.

"Col$^{o.}$ Johnson writes me that one of the Indians he sent to the Delawares (before he left home), requiring them to desist from all Hostilities against the English, returned and met him at Albany on his now going up, and acquainted him, in answer to his Message, that they promised him no more Mischief should be done, and that they would wait the Result of his Meeting with the Six Nations, which he informs me is like to be very numerous, and that he hopes at this Meeting to put a Stop to the Indian Incursions on the back Settlements of your Province.

"I propose going up the latter End of next month, if the Waters of Hudson's River are open, to hold a Meeting with the Six Nations to deliver to them his Majesty's Present. I have prevail'd on the Assembly of this Province to grant Money for an Addition to it; and as at this critical Juncture all Measures should be taken to further and promote the British Interest with those Tribes, I must beg Leave to offer it to your Consideration whether great Good may not arise from your Province taking some Notice of them at this Meeting; if such should be agreeable to you it shall be my care to inform the Indians of your Regard for them.

"I do most sincerely wish you Success in your Recommendation to your Assembly upon the Plan of Operations concerted in this City, and hope from the Necessity there is of carrying the War into the Enemy's Country, you will have little Difficulty in prevailing on them to take a proper Share with the other Colonies. I am impatiently waiting the Return of my Express from Boston, who carried the Resolutions of my Assembly to General Shirley and the Eastern Governments.

"The first Packet arrived here from England the 3d Instant. I have a long Letter from the Post Master's General desiring I will not detain her longer than Twenty Days after her Arrival, but in cases of Necessity, and upon the Footing they are; a detaining of her must be attended with a considerable Increase of Charge to the Government, as they are paid by the Voyage, with a promise of Gratuity for extraordinary Incidents. I Judged it proper to acquaint you with this Instruction to the Masters of the Packets and the Post Master's General Request to me upon it; and as her allotted Time of Stay here appears to me to be so short for the Distant Governments answering their Letters, I propose on her Return to recommend a longer Time to the Post Office.

"I am, Sir, Your most obedient and most humble Servant,

"CHA$^{s.}$ HARDY.

"The Honble. Gov$^{r.}$ MORRIS."

"FORT JOHNSON, Jan$^{r.}$ 28th, 1756.

"Sir:

"Just now came here Two Oneidas Express from the Senecas, and brought with them a large Belt of Black Wampum, 14 Rows broad and 2½ Foot long, who made the following Speech.

"There is about 20 of the Oghquagy and Tuscororas here these eight days past, and about 30 more expected; the Express says there will be a vast Number of the Five Nations down; this goes by Express, which the Indians insisted on. I am,

"Sir, your most obedient humble Servant,

"ROBERT ADAMS.

"'Brother Warraghiyagee:

"'About 3 Weeks ago came a large Vessel to Niagara with a French Officer on Board, who enquired where his Children were who always kept there, for that he could not then see any of them.

"'Children:

"'The English have been threatening us all last Summer about taking Niagara and Cataraqui Forts. I dreaded very much, especially Niagara, which is to be compared to nothing else than a decayed Tree, which, if a small Wind came, would blow it down.

"'Children:

"'I have been at the defeating of the English at Ohio, and hearing of General Johnson's coming to Crown Point immediately set off to meet him; when I first met his People the Smoke of my Guns made such a Darkness before my Eyes that I could not see my Children, but marching a little farther, discovering Numbers of them lying dead in the Road, which made my Heart bleed, as I heard General Johnson had said he did not want his Brothers to fight, but to look on and see him fight.

"'Children:

"'I now tell you that I am going to steal Oswego from them, and my Army that is coming is very numerous and makes a great Noise.

"'I don't intend to listen any more to my Children; you have never heard me promise any thing but what I always fulfilled, and I desire you, Children, to keep from that Place they call Oswego.

"'Brother Warraghiyagee:

"'We the Sachems of the Five Nations now assembled at Onondago do now let you know that we see Death before our Eyes, and that we send this Post to desire that there may be Men ready to send to the Relief of Oswego, for you may assure yourself the above is nothing but Truth.

"'DAN. CLAUS.'

"A true Copy."

"ONONDAGO, 23d of Jan^{ry}, 1756.

"Sir:

"This is to acquaint you of the News that the Indians brought here a Belt of Wampum which is come from Niagara, and desires our Indians that they should stand aside, that they would go to Oswego to take it within 10 or 12 Days; the French is to set out from Niagara to-day or to-morrow, as the Indians told me, and they desire me to write it to your Honour to acquaint you with all Speed. The Indians are to go from here within 4 days; so no more at present, but remain

"Your humble Servant,

"JOHN VAN SICE.'

"A true Copy examined by

"BENJ^A. BARONS, Secretary.

"To The Hon^ble. major Gen^l. JOHNSON."

A Message from the Governor to the Assembly.

"Gentlemen:

"His Majesty, sensible of the great Importance it is to the British Interest and to the Success of our Schemes against the French, to preserve and improve our Friendship with the Indians, has been graciously pleased to order a considerable Present to be sent to New York for the Six Nations, and Sir Charles Hardy proposing to go very soon to hold a Meeting with those Indians to distribute among them that Present, with an Addition which he has prevailed on the Assembly of New York to make to it, has recommended it to my Consideration in the Letter I herewith send you whether at this critical Juncture great Good may not arise from this Province's likewise taking some Notice of them.

"The cruel Proofs, and daily Experience we have of late had, how much it is in the Power of a few, even of the most inconsiderable of those People, to do us irreparable Mischiefs when they are disposed to be our Enemies, make it needless for me to use any other Arguments to induce you to consider whether it will not be quite proper and necessary for this Province to make some Present now to the Six Nations, in order to keep up and Strengthen our Alliance with them, and engage them to be more earnest and ready to assist us against these Savages that have done and are still committing the Murders and horrid Ravages amongst our back Inhabitants.

"ROBT. H. MORRIS.

"Philadelphia, February 16th, 1756."

MEMORANDUM.

The Twentieth of February the Governor received the following

Letter from General Shirley, of the ninth Instant, and sent it to the House by the Secretary:

"BOSTON, February 9, 1756.

"Sir:

"I have received a Letter of the 24th of January last from the President of your Council, relating to the inlisting of indented Servants into his Majesty's Service. I should be extremely gl'd to have it in my Power to remove any thing that can be thought a Hardship on the Province of Pennsylvania; but the Restraint I had put upon the officers inlisting Servants was not taken off till I was convinced by the Complaint of the officers that his Majesty's Service must suffer at this very critical Conjuncture if they were restrained from inlisting such as voluntarily offer themselves; and at present the number of Men wanting to complete his Majesty's Regiments on this Continent is so great, and the Time so short before they will be wanting for Service, that I can by no means renew any Order which shall retard the compleating of them.

"I cannot conceive that the Distress arising from the inlisting a few Servants can be any thing like what the President and Council seem to apprehend; for the Number must be so trifling, in Proportion to the Labourers in your Government, that it can have no visible Effect on the Province in general; and if any peculiar Instances of Hardship should happen to particular Persons thereby, I shall be always willing and ready to consider Circumstances on their being properly represented to me.

"My own Government of the Massachussets Bay is so far from thinking it a Hardship that indented Servants should be allowed to inlist, that they not only chearfully consent to that, but have even impressed great numbers of indented Servants for the Expedition against Crown Point; and it is the constant Practice to impress them as well as other inhabitants for garrisoning our Frontier Forts, where they often remain several Years; nor is it uncommon in other Governments to do the same.

"I am, your Honour's most obedient and most humble Servant,

"W. SHIRLEY."

On the same Day the Governor received a Bill from the House intituled "An Act for dispersing the Inhabitants of Nova Scotia imported into this Province into the several counties of Philadelphia, Bucks, Chester, and Lancaster, and the Townships thereof, and making Provision for the same," for his concurrense; and likewise the following Message in answer to his last relating to the Indians:

"May it please the Governor:

"As Sir Charles Hardy does not propose to set out from New York for the Meeting he intends to hold with the Six Nations, till the latter End of next Month, we apprehend no Inconveniencies can ensue from our not giving a determined answer to the Governor's Message of the Seventeenth Instant, which may be resumed as the advices we now daily expect to receive from General Johnson may render it necessary.

"By the Papers and Accounts the Governor has been pleased to lay before us on this Occasion, it appears that great Numbers of Indians were expected at the Treaty to be held with the Six Nations; and from General Johnson's Knowledge and known Abilities in conducting Indian Affairs, we may reasonably expect a happy Issue of that Treaty; but whatever it may be, we shall be better able to determine the Part this Province ought to act in this Matter; when Scarroyady and Andrew Montour return with an Account of the Disposition of the Indians towards us at this critical Conjuncture, and the Result of General Johnson's Treaty with the Six Nations, which are now very soon expected.

"Signed by order of the House.

"ISAAC NORRIS, Speaker.

"February 20th, 1756."

At a Council held in the State House at Philadelphia, Tuesday, 24th February, 1756.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor,

James Hamilton,	Robert Strettell,	Esquires.
Benjamin Shoemaker,	Joseph Turner,	
Richard Peters,	Lynford Lardner,	
John Mifflin,	Thomas Cadwalader,	

Benjamin Franklin,	Esquires.
Joseph Fox,	
John Hughes,	

The Indians.

Conrad Weiser, Esquire, Interpreter.
John Davison, Assistant.

Two of the Six Nation Indians, Aroas and David, the Mohock, were sent at the Instance of the Governor up the River Sasquehannah to gain Intelligence of the Motions and Number of the Enemy Indians, and to try to find out the Shickcalamys and Jonathan Cayanquiloquoa, and bring them along with them, and Captain McKee who had the command of a Fort at Hunter's Mill near the Place where the Blue Hills cross the Sasquehannah, had the Governor's Directions, as these Indians in their Return were de-might have (by your staying so much longer than the time appointed for meeting) gathered some dust; I am glad you have taken down the fan, and swept it, so that nothing might in the least impede our consultations.

Three strings of wampum.

Ended this affair.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE[1]

Copy[2]

My answer made *February 17, 1756.*

Arent Stevens, interpreter.

Brethern [*sic*] of Tuscarora,

I received the friendly speech[3] which you made at my house when I was at New-York, together with your acknowledgments for the arms, ammunition, &c. I gave your nation; I heartily wish they may answer the end they were designed for, which was to enable you to secure yourselves against any attempts of the French, or any other enemy. I highly approve of your wisdom and timely advice to your elder brothers the Oneidas, and am extremely glad that you and they have at last agreed to build a place of defence, and to join your brethren the English against any attempts of your and our common enemy the French.

A belt.

Brethren of Oneida.

It highly pleases me to find you so grateful for the advice I have given you, and the assistance I promised you should have, as well as your brethren the Tuscaroras; and I expect you and they, together with the Skaniadaradighronos, will live so compact, and have your castle fortified in such a manner, as may enable you to make a bold defence, should any attempts be made against you.

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[1] At Fort Johnson.

[2] Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 7–10.

[3] See Robert Adams to Johnson, Jan. 28, 1756 and speech that follows.

If you do this, and have a good officer with a party of men there, nothing can hurt you.

A belt.

Brethren,

Nothing can give me greater satisfaction, than to find you have at last come to your senses, and to the use of your hearing, of which you have acknowledged to have been bereft some time.

As I have a great regard for you, I most sincerely wish you may continue in your senses, that you may follow the wholesome advice which your brother the Tuscarora, although younger, has given you, and that which I shall from time to time give you.

Brethren,

Had you been in your right senses, and your eyes open when I timely acquainted you with the designs of the French encroaching on your hunting-grounds, and destroying you, and had followed my advice, the French would not have been now in possession of the best part of your country, and bid you defiance as they now do.

Shake away then that infatuation, which has so long had the better of you, and exert yourselves now in conjunction with your Father the King's troops, and you may still recover your lands and be a happy people, which is the sincere wish of your Father and all your brethren.

Your not complying with the governor of Canada's invitation to meet him at Swegatsy, was quite right; and I am glad you have taken so firm a resolution of adhering to your engagements: had you acted otherwise, it would have been a breach of the many solemn promises you have made to me on that head.

A belt.

Brethren of Oneida and Tuscarora,

I am heartily pleased to hear from you, that you have not been so remiss as I imagined, with regard to the Delawares

and Shawanese; and that you are determined to have a conference with them. I must press you in the most strenuous manner to exert your authority at said meeting, and let me know the result thereof as soon as possible.

A belt.

Brethren,

I heard general Shirley say, that he had ordered a fort to be built for you some time ago: why his orders have not been complied with I cannot say; but this I may venture to affirm, it was not his fault: however, as you now desire it may be built, I will order proper persons to go about it as soon as possible.

A belt.

Ended.

1 Feb. 7. 1756

Honoured Sir

My last was from New York of the 18th of December, since which I acknowledge the Receit of yours of the 6th & 25th of October and 14th & 15th of November, ne last by the Packet. My Brother has in my Absence as he tells me given You Account of every material Transaction, and sent You the Votes of Assembly. In this I shall give an Account of what has been done since my last, and in ~~[illegible]~~ this answer your Letters of the 13th 14th, 15th, 17th and 20th of August, 23d and 27th of ptember, 4th, 6th and 25th of October, and 14th and 15th of November.

The Governor after the Council of War was over held several Conferences to hich I was admitted with Mr. Shirley on the State of Indian Affairs.

In these he shewed Us his Speech to the Six Nation Indians with his Instructions Col. Johnson, and Both are copied that You may be satisfied all will be done with e Nations that is in our Power. To Col. Johnson are likewise addressed Letters as l from Sir Charles Hardie as our Governor, in which the Ravages of the Delawares re distinctly set forth, with their Request to represent them respectively on the Part both Governments at the same time that it is done on behalf of the General. I have the Pleasure further to inform You, that Scarroyady and Andrew ntour have with infinite Danger and Difficulty pierced thro the Enemy Indians on Susquehannah, and are safe arrived at Col. Johnson's, where they will iver a Message from this Government joined to one sent by the Six Nation dians living in this Province. This will give a great additional Weight, as se Indians are well respected, and can support the Complaint with a Detail Facts of which they have been Eye Witnesses. They can describe the very Indians o are revolted, the Causes of their perfidious and ungrateful Defection, the uelties they have committed on the peaceable and innocent Borderers, and the decent and undutiful Speeches they have uttered against the Six Nations. These id before the Council along with the several Complaints made by the General, this Government and that of New York, cannot fail I think of moving the Six ations to a just Resentment, especially as Col. Johnson writes me he does not doubt but he can prevail on the Six Nations to call off and correct the Delawares; and but last Week wrote to Sir Charles Hardy, that he had sent an Indian to the Delawares in the Name of the Six Nations to forbid them doing any more Mischief against Pennsylvania, and that this Indian was returned from Sasquehannah with an Answer that they would desist. But this Indian Meſsenger must have been imposed upon, as they have not discontinued their Ravages, nor from Appearances mean to do it. A Copy is made of Scarrooyadys Letter from Oneocquago and sent herewith.

The Governor before he left New York drew up a Plan proper to be pursued with respect to the Southern Colonies and the Cherokees, and agreeable thereto Mr. Shirley sent Letters to this and the other Southern Colonies, one of which Proposals is likewise copied. But I suppose it will not take Place as Governor Dinwiddie has had Negotiations with the Cherokees during the Winter, in consequence of which one hundred and thirty of that Nation are arrived at Jackson's River in Virginia, and a thousand of them will join the English in the Spring. This is set forth in Governor Dinwiddie's Letter which is copied.

The Governor likewise obtained an Order from General Shirley for the March of Ninety Regulars, forty five Grenadiers and forty five Independants, for the Service of this Province, which the Governor intended to station as a Guard to the Towns of Reading and Easton, and they arrived whilst the Governor was at Reading, and are gone to the Places of their Destination. But inasmuch as they could not be spared longer than the Beginning of March, this measure was disliked by the Commiſsioners, as too expensive; however, as it was well meant by the Governor, they have at last condescended to pay the Charges and their Subsistence, which will be something more than their Pay, tho this is to go in Part towards it.

The Inhabitants of the several Wards of the City whilst the Governor was at New York formed themselves into Companies and chose their Officers under the present Law, and presented them to the Governor for his Approbation, but without Lists of their Names or a Return of the Poll of Election, and the Governor with

Advice of Council desiring them to do this, or he could not accept the Choice, the Officers put it to the Vote of the Electors standing before the Governors Door whether they should do this or no, and they unanimously voted they would not give in their Names, and then voted that what they had done should be as nothing, and all this unanimously, and in a rude indecent manner. The Reason given by the Officers for this Treatment of the Governor was that in Conversation he told some of them, as soon as he had the Names of the Companies he would incorporate them with the Regulars which were coming from New York, and then they would be subject to Military Discipline. This it seems the Governor denies he said with respect to the Militia, tho he did mention some such thing with respect to the Guards posted on the Frontiers and in the Pay of the Province; but such Umbrage was taken at the very Thought, that the whole City was in an Uproar, and the Governor treated most rudely in their Discourse, and by Papers thrown into his House. This was however soon put an End to, and a Reconciliation brought about by my speaking to some of the Officers that I accidentally light of in the Evening, and shewing them their Mistake in not making Returns of the Elections & certified by some of the principal Freeholders, for Want whereof they must be sensible there could be no Record of their Proceedings nor nothing before the Governor and Council: I further aſsured them, that the Council was unanimous in their Advice to the Governor not to countenance such irregular Proceedings, on which the People aſsembled together the next morning, made regular Returns of the Polls, but without Lists of the Electors, and the Council advised the Governor to receive these, and proceed to examine the Merits of the Persons elected, which was done, and some approved, and some rejected, and in the End all appeared so well satisfied, that the Officers attended the Governor as far as German Town in his Way to the Frontier.

Perhaps there never was such a Farce acted as this Pretence to form Companies and chuse Officers under the Militia Law, and from first to last never was seen a greater Scene of Hypocrisy and Diſsimulation. One and all as some of the Officers told me at first openly declared against the Law, and Papers were read to the Electors, in which it was declared, that they would not agree to make Articles, nor sign any if made under such an unjust, and unequal and foolis Law, and that they would use their joint Endeavours to get it repealed, and a more equitable and fair one made, and that all the Reason of their forming Companies was to learn the Discipline and procure Arms, and get into some Orde on the same footing as in the late Association — And yet they have proceeded to chuse Field Officers, viz.t Mr. Franklin Colonel, Mr. Masters Lieutenant Colonel and Mr. John Ross Major; and it is thought with Intentions to make and subscribe Articles, and push the Law all they can, which at any other Time would be very well, but at this the Experiment will cost the Lives of Thousands and hinder any thing effectual to be done for our Defence either in the City or Country.

On the 31st December, the Governor, having staid but four Days in Town after his Return from New York, set out for Harris's Ferry, not knowing but some Indians might be come there, tho he had little hopes of it, as those very Indians that his Message was designed for had fallen upon the County of Northampton at the Time his Messengers were preparing for their Journey to Wyomink.

The Governor in his Way met at Reading, Mr. Hamilton, Mr. Franklin and Mr. Fox, the Three Commissioners who had been in the County of Northampton to put it into a Posture of Defence, and enable the Inhabitants over the Hills to make Head against the Indians, who seemed to have collected their Force and directed it against this Part of the Province. I heard them relate to the Governor that tho the Indians were burning Houses and killing the defenceless People at a most intolerable rate all the while they were among them, so as scarce to leave an House standing over the Blue Hills, and that they offered Provisions, Arms and Ammunition to such as would go against them, yet none would go on these Terms, neither the Sufferers themselves, nor those who might reasonably expect to be next attacked, all insisting on Pay as well as Subsistence, and to be

found

nd in Arms and Ammunition; nor content with this, they asked and insisted
on most exorbitant Prices as well for everything wanted on this Occasion as for the
reage and Transportation of it.

The Commissioners finding the People in this untoward Disposition, and at
ame time abandoned to Drink, took into Provincial Pay some Companies,
Militia formed in the interior Parts of the Province, and fixed on proper
ces for Forts which the Companies were to build, and where they were to be posted;
d accordingly the following Forces are now employed in the Defence of the
nty of Northampton — A Captain and Fifty Men at a Fort built about four
les West Southerly of Depui's Island in the River Delaware — A Captain and
ty Men at a Fort built about eighteen Miles West Southerly of the last mentione
d — A Captain and Twenty Five Men at a Fort built at Gnaden hutten eighteen
les West Southerly again of the last mentioned — Two Companies of Fifty Men
h at a Fort building for the Defence of the Borders between Gnaden hutten
d Berks County — A Captain and Twenty Five Men on the River Delawar
the Defence of the River Settlements — A Captain and Fifty Men at
anth — A Captain and Twenty Five Men for the Defence of the Irish and
ptain and Twenty Five Men for the Defence of another Settlement higher
n the West Branch — Besides Sixty Regulars now at Easton.

It was agreed between the Governor on his going to New York and the
missioners that some of these should in his absence go into the Frontier
nties, the Governor signed blank Commissions, and gave them to Mr. Hamilton
h a special Power under the Lesser Seal to appoint Officers and fill those
lanks up with their Names, and I was present when Mr. Hamilton reported
he Governor, that he had filled up some of the blank Commissions entrusted
him, but with Regret, because the Officers chose were generally Men of no
racter, and elected on their own Sollicitation by some of the meanest of their
ghbours, and this done too in hopes of their being taken into Pay. Mr. Hamilton
ded that he despaired of seeing any Thing like a Militia or Provincial Troops

on

n which there could be a Dependance, until the present Law should be revised, and another made giving Power to the Officers in the Pay of the Province to hold Court Martials and prescribing Punishments for Failures of Duty, and Desertion; and as to a voluntary Militia, making such Provisions and laying such Forfeitures and Penalties as were done in the neighbouring Provinces; and these several Matters being of the very Essence of every Military Law, and more wanted thro the Dissoluteness and Libertinism of the People of this Province than in any other — I hear 'tis that Mr. Franklin is of this Opinion, but still loath to give up the present Law, which was entirely his own Draught; perhaps he thinks the present Assembly cannot be got to make a better; and therefore this rather than none — but he and all our People must be convinced that We shall lose our Country and Thousands of Lives for want of obliging Us to an Union of our Strength by compulsory Laws.

If this Law does not open the Eyes of the King and Ministry at home nothing will — Can any Thing lay before them the shocking Principles and Sentiments of the governing People of this Province in plainer and stronger Terms than the Preamble of this Law, with its several partial, absurd and unreasonable Clauses, all destructive of the Rights of the Crown and the King's Legal Representative? surely not. But to proceed to my Narrative.

Whilst the Governor and Commissioners were raising Men and considering where to post them for the Defence of the County of Berks — fresh Accounts came by Express from Northampton, that the Guards of Gnaden-hutten were attacked and defeated, and that Parties of Indians had penetrated into and burnt and destroyed more of their Houses and Plantations, and that it was to be feared the Companies would not be able to build the Forts, nor protect the Inhabitants, especially as all deserted their Habitations, and none could be got to stand against the Enemy. On this News Mr. Franklin returned to the County of Northampton, supplied with a general Power from the Governor to raise Men, to grant Commiſsions, build Forts and do what should upon the Spot be deemed by him neceſsary for the Preservation of that Country; and he continued there till the seventh Instant, and has, under this Power, built a Fort at Gnaden-hutten; and Forts are likewise built at proper Places in a continued Chain from Delaware River to the Borders of Berks County; and yet notwithstanding these and the Number of Companies posted in them, and in some of the interior Parts, eleven Persons were killed about a Week ago on the East Borders of Berks County, at a Place called Albany, near the Northampton-Line. And it is to be expected, that the Indians will still break thro and be continually perpetrating their horrid Murders and mischiefs.

Before Mr. Franklin separated from the Governor and the other Commiſsrs, it was agreed to continue the Line of Forts thro Berks County, and accordingly a Company of Fifty Men is posted at a Place called Fort Lebanon, a little above the Gap where Schuylkill paſses thro the Blue Mountains, about Twenty Miles West Southerly of Gnaden-hutten — another Company of Fifty Men are posted at Tolhaio, a Gap in the Blue Mountains known to them above Tulpyhockin — Thirty Men are posted where the main Branch of Swahatawro runs thro those Mountains — Thirty Men are posted where its West Branch runs thro them distant from the main Branch about Ten Miles, and thirty Men on the Side of Sasquehannah where the Blue Mountains croſs that River, and where stands Hunter's Mill. Forty Regulars are likewise posted at Reading for the Defence of that Town. This done, the Governor and Commiſsioners proceeded to Harris's on the seventh of January, and finding no Indians there and that none of the Meſsengers had dared to go to Wyomenk, he made no Stay, but moved directly to Carlisle, having first sent from Reading an Expreſs to Mr. Croghan to bring to him there such Indians as were at his House, or in his Neighbourhood. There the Governor staid till Sunday before Mr. Croghan came. I should have mentioned, that before the Governor went to New York, Mr. Croghan was sent for by the Governor and Commiſsioners, and came, but not till after the Governor was gone, to Philadelphia - The Commissioners dispatched him into Cumberland County with Powers to raise as many Men as he could, and build some Forts along and over the Blue Hills for the Security of that Country This he was doing when the Governor and Commissioners came to Carlisle and made this his Excuse for not coming sooner. It appeared by his Returns that he had raised Three Hundred Men, that he had in Part built a Fort at the Sugar Cabbin on the new Road cut for the Use of General Braddock, distant Twelve Miles from the Path Valley, where Mr. Burd began to open it at the Expence of the Province the Townships having opened it from Shippensburg to that Valley for the Space of Twenty Miles at their own Expence, and had left Seventy Men there. The Governor has since called this Fort after Mr. Lyttelton. Mr. Croghan's own House at Aucquick distant Twenty Miles East of Fort Lyttelton was fortified last Fall; here he had posted one hundred Men, and this is named Fort Shirley - At Twenty Miles distant Eastward from this another Fort called Fort Granville is laid out at a Place called Coshicoquillas, distant Twenty Miles Eastward of Fort Shirley, and here he had posted Fifty or Sixty Men. - Twenty Miles Eastward of this and within Ten Miles of the River Sasquehannah, another Fort is laying out to be called Fort Pomfret Castle. In these several Forts the Governor and Commissioners have placed Garrisons of Seventy Five Men each, and lately on some fresh Murders being committed at Conegochege and in the Conollaways another Fort is ordered with a Garrison of Fifty Men to be built at the most convenient Place and at an equal Distance between Fort Lyttelton & the Sugar Cabbins and a Maryland Fort near the Northern Bend of Patowmec, about thirty Miles from one another, which last Fort will cover and protect the Conollaways and the Big and Little Coves, where, when this is built, some People intend to return to their deserted Habitations.

Thus you have a Detail of what has been done in this Journey for the Defence of the Frontier; but prior to this, on the Application of the

Inhabitants after the first Attack on the Settlers of John Penn's Creek, a vast Quantity of Arms and Ammunition was sent into Berks, Lancaster and Northampton Counties; nor was it doubted but the Country People would form themselves into voluntary Companies and defend their Properties, supplied with these Arms and Ammunition; but in this the Publick was disappointed; for tho the best men in the Counties had the Distribution of them, yet this, tho an heavy Expence was of little or no Service, a great number of the Arms being lost, and the Ammunition expended in private Uses.

The Indian Minutes which are sent herewith will shew that but a few of our friendly Indians came to Carlisle – viz^t. The Belt – Aroas or Silver Heels – Cassiopea or Allaquippas's Grandson to whom the Governor this Summer gave the Name of Newcastle from his Grandmother's having been at Newcastle when M^r. Penn arrived there in the Year 1699 or 1700. Jagrea a Mohock – Seneca George – a Mohock Indian called David, an old Friend – Johnny, the late Half King's Son – John Kinga Nintieche – and a Delaware called Isaac – They are hearty for Us, and most of them having fought in the English Army at the General's Defeat grieve at the Ingratitude of the Delawares and Shawonese, and are desirous to join Us tho they are so few, in any Expedition against our Enemy Indians, but entreat Us to believe the Six Nations are still our Friends, and to wait for the News from Scarrooyady, who they hope will be able to set matters right with the Six Nations, and engage them to act offensively against and deliver Us from the Delawares.

The general Voice of the People calls aloud for a Proclamation offering Rewards for Indian Scalps, and most are of Opinion that this will effectually engage Numbers to range and lye in the Woods, and surprise the Indians in the same manner they do our ~~our~~ miserable People. Others declare for one or more Expeditions ag^ts their Towns, and to take them, their Wives and Children Prisoners – But a general Indian War is by all means to be avoided, and it is hoped that the general Body of the Six Nations are hearty in the English Interest, and will declare against these wicked Proceedings, the Government cannot think it adviseable either to form Expeditions against the Indian Towns or publish a Reward for Scalps till they receive the Determination of the Six Nations, which may be expected now every day. Mr. Clause was by order of the Governor got as far as New York in his Way here to assist in the Management of Indian Affairs, but by the Advice of General Shirley, Mr. William Alexander the General's Secretary and Coll. Johnson, he returned with Coll. Johnson from New York, assists him on the Part of this Province at the general Treaty now holding at Mount Johnson; and has the Governor's Orders to bring Scarroyady and Montour with him the Moment the Six Nations have delivered their final Answer, together with the Minutes of the Council and Coll. Johnson's Dispatches; and as a Vessel will sail from here for some Port in England next Week, I am in hopes to send You Copies of what passes between Coll. Johnson and the Six Nations, and our Measures in consequence thereof.

You ask me whether it may not be right to give Scarroyady and others that are remarkably faithful and active for the English some Presents as a Mark of your Esteem. I do not know that I have in any of my Letters told You, that by the Advice of the Governor and Mr. Weiser, I have from time to time as these People who were our best Friends came to Town, particularly Scarroyady and the Chick Calamys and three or four of the Warriors, given them private Presents in your Name, and reminded them of your constant Attention to them, and without this the Proprietaries would not be considered by them as distinct from the Government; and I assure You these Presents have had great Weight with them. I likewise consented that Jonathan Cayanguiloquoa, one of the Chiefs of the Mohocks, should send his Two Sons here, and that they should have their Education given them by the Proprietaries at the Academy if the Assembly would maintain them - and fortunately for Us the Two Boys were sent to my Care, and are now at the Academy - I agreed to pay for half their Board and Cloathes, and the Speaker agreed to pay the other half; and since your Gift of Five Thousand

Pounds; I have given Notice to the Assembly that this was done of my own head, without acquainting the Proprietaries, and that I would not henceforth be at any more Expence about them, and so they are now entirely in the Care of the Speaker, and at the publick Expence. I have not given in to the Receiver General any Account of Indian Charges since Hendrick and the Mohocks came down to this City, owing to other Business; but I shall draw it out and give particular Accounts of each Article.

Conrad Keehmle (not Conrad Keetmill) applied for thirty Feet by one hundred and ninety five Feet at Bedminster - You know the Place well - it is where Peter Baynton built a little Pleasure House, afterwards Macky lived in it; and they teased You while here to sell them this additional thirty Feet. I will enquire and send You the true Value in my next, and I think it may be granted without Prejudice to your neighbouring Lands.

The Surveyor General sent a List of original Purchasers and the Lots surveyed in Right thereof last Year.

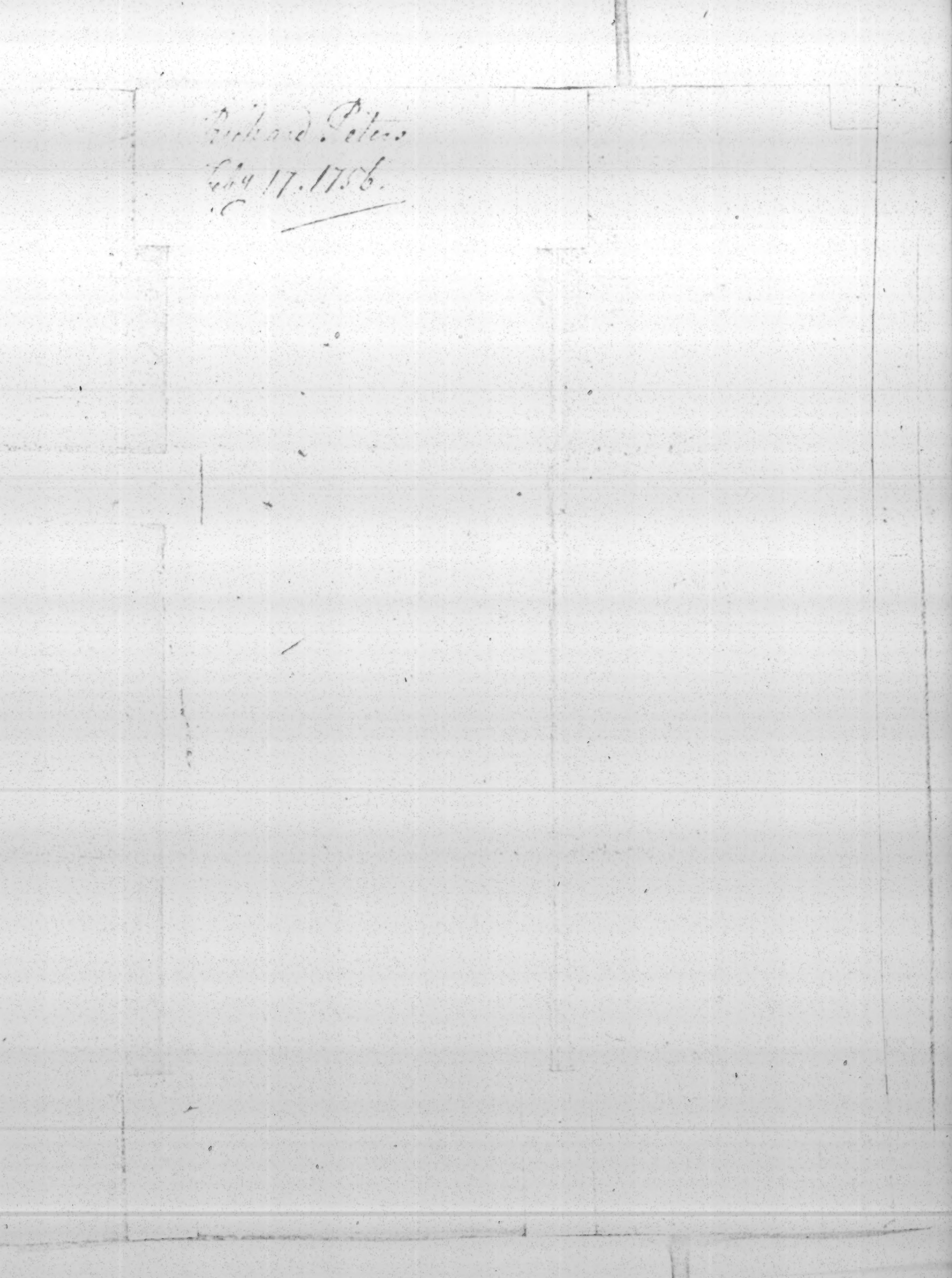
I have heard something of a Jury's not being able to convict a Criminal of Murder, because it was committed in one of the Islands in the River, none of which most certainly are in the Jurisdiction of Pennsylvania, and doubted whether in that of any of the Lower Counties. I will endeavour to learn the particulars of the Case; but with what View Mr. Francis mentions this I cannot conceive, unless it came accidentally into the Course of Conversation.

My most dutiful Respects to Mr. Richard Penn, who will consider my Letters as wrote to him. I am

Honored Sir

Philadelphia
17th February 1756

Your most obedient
humble Servant
Richard Peters



Richard Peters
Feby 17. 1756.

and Shawanese; and that you are determined to have a conference with them. I must press you in the most strenuous manner to exert your authority at said meeting, and let me know the result thereof as soon as possible.

A belt.

Brethren,

I heard general Shirley say, that he had ordered a fort to be built for you some time ago: why his orders have not been complied with I cannot say; but this I may venture to affirm, it was not his fault: however, as you now desire it may be built, I will order proper persons to go about it as soon as possible.

A belt.

Ended.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE[1]

Copy[2]

At a private meeting of the upper Mohawk castle,

Wednesday the 18th. [*February, 1756*]

Present all the sachems and warriors,

Abraham, Hendrick's brother, stood up and spoke.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We return you our hearty thanks, for the care you have taken in fortifying our castle last summer, agreeable to our desire, and also of garrisoning it in our absence, for the security of our old people and children. And as we look upon it as necessary now as ever (from the many reports we daily have, of the French's intentions of attacking us for our attachment to you) we earnestly desire there may be an officer, and a proper number of men, posted there, as soon as possible for our defence.

A belt.

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[1] At Fort Johnson.

[2] Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 22.

Brethren of Canajoharee,

As I am fully convinced of your sincerity and attachment to his Majesty's interest, I readily comply with your request, not doubting it will be very agreeable to your Father the great king, who has nothing more at heart than the safety and welfare of you his faithful children; as an assurance of what I say, and now promise to you, I give you this belt of wampum.

A belt.

So this meeting ended.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE

Copy[1]

[*Fort Johnson, Feb. 18–19, 1756*]

At a meeting of five hundred and eighty-six of the Six nations and their allies, at Fort Johnson, February the 18th 1756.

Present,

The honourable William Johnson, sole superintendant of their Affairs,
The Rev. Dr. Ogilvie,[2]
The Rev. Mr. Hawley,
Capt. Beckwith,
Lieut. Miller,
Lieut. Dunbar,
Lieut. Pottinger,
Lieut. Mills,[3]
Lieut. Lottridge,
Capt. Butler[4], and other Indian officers,
Several gentlemen,
The deputy secretary,
And four interpreters,

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[1] Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 23–25.

[2] "Missionary, stationed among the Mohawks." [Ed's note.]

[3] "A brave English-man, Lieutenant of the independant companies in the province of New-york." [Ed's note.]

[4] "An Irish gentleman, in the same rank with Mills, and has resided among the Mohawks above 20 years." [Ed's note.]

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I, (viz. Gen. Johnson) spoke as follows:

Brethren of the six united nations,

I have heard with great concern that a war-party of the Senecas, the most remote nation of the confederacy, have had a considerable misunderstanding with their brethren the English to the southward, which has been fatal to some of that nation. I am extremely unable to express my concern for that unhappy affair; and as the hatchet remains fixed in your heads, I do with the greatest affection and tenderness remove it thence.

A belt.

Brethren,

With this belt I cleanse and purify the beds of those who fell in that unfortunate affair, from the defilement they have contracted.

A belt.

Brethren,

I am informed that upon that unhappy occasion you have lost three of your principal warriors; I do with this belt cover their dead bodies, that they may not offend our fight any more, and bury the whole affair in eternal oblivion.

A belt.

Brethren,

I have now agreeable to your antient customs scattered those clouds that looked with so dark and threatning an aspect; the sun now shines bright again, therefore let us under its enlightning and cherishing influences, proceed upon our important business with our usual chearfulness and unanimity.

A belt.

The remaining part of the ceremony of condolence, jointly in the name of General Johnson and Governor Morris, whom Skaronyade the half king, and Mr. Montour, represented.

Brethren of the Cayougas and Toderighronos,

By constant experience we discover, that the life of man is as the flower of the field; in this transitory scene, therefore, resignation becomes us under the loss of our nearest and dearest friends: comfort yourselves, therefore, under the losses you have sustained, as becomes reasonable creatures. With this belt I cover all your dead, that they may no more offend your fight.

A belt.

Brethren of the Onondagas, Oneidas, Tuscaroras, Skaniadaradighronos, Aughquaygeys, and the Mohawks of both castles,

I perform the same ceremony to you. After the ceremony, six French prisoners, some of those who were taken at the late battle, near Lake George, were delivered with great ceremony to the Indians, in order to replace the following Indians, who were killed in that battle, viz. Tayanoga, alias Hendrick Tarraghiyoris; Waniacoone of Canajoharee; Skahyowio Onienkoto of the Mohawks; Nica-anawa Skaronyade's son; and Cayadanora, a Tuscarora.

They received the prisoners with the greatest marks of gratitude and satisfaction; every nation giving the shout of approbation, and then carried off the prisoners to their respective families.

Thus ended the ceremony necessary on those occasions, agreeable to their customs.

The answer of the Six nations and their allies,

February 19th 1756.

Red Head, speaker,

Present,

The hono. William Johnson,	Lieut. Dunbar,
The Rev. Dr. Ogilvie,	Capt. Butler, and other Indian officers,
The Rev. Mr. Hawley,	Three interpreters.
Lieut. Miller,	

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We the sachems and warriors of the Seneca nation, return you our sincere and hearty thanks, for the great affection in drying our tears, and driving sorrow from our hearts; and we in return perform the same ceremony to you with the like hearty affection.

A string of wampum.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are sensible of your goodness, expressed to us in removing the cause of our grief, and tenderly taking the ax out of our heads. A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are thankful to you for cleaning the blood out of our fight, agreeable to the antient custom of our forefathers.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are thankful likewise for covering the graves of those who were slain in that unhappy [*sic*] affair.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We acknowledge your goodness in thus settling our minds, which were so much discomposed, and that you have so seasonably reminded us of that harmony, that has always subsisted between our fore-fathers and our brethren the English, an account of which has been handed down, to us by tradition, from father to son. We promise due attention to your advice, which we are convinced tends to our welfare; and assure you, that we bury that unfortunate affair in eternal oblivion.

A belt.

The Cayougas and Toderighronos, return their hearty thanks to the General, for his affectionate and public condolence, with a belt.

A belt.

The Onondagas acknowledge the same with a belt.

A Belt.

The Oneidas do the same.

A belt.

The Tuscaroras and Skaniadaradighronos the same.

A belt.

The two castles of the Mohawks the same.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

The six united nations, as one body, do with the greatest thankfulness acknowledge your brotherly affection, in thus effectually cleansing and purifying all our habitations from all the blood and defilement, which they had contracted by the death of so many of our principal men.

A belt.

The speaker then took up a large belt, which the general gave, with an emblem of the six nations joined hand in hand with us, and spoke as follows:

Brother Warraghiyagey,

Look with attention on this belt, and remember the solemn and mutual engagements we entered into, when you first took upon you the management of our affairs; be assured, we look upon them as sacred, and shall, on our parts, punctually perform them as long as we are a people.

A prodigious large belt!

The speaker then took up another very large belt, which was given them by the governor of New York some years ago.

He then repeated the solemn promises, that were then made them by the representatives of all the governments then present, and said,

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We hope our brethren the English will seriously remember the promises made by us by this belt, and exactly perform them; and we promise to do the same, though we have no records but our memories.

A very large belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

As you, and the governor of Philadelphia, have asked us, what reason we can possibly assign for the barbarous behaviour of our nephews the Delawares; all we can say at present is, that they are deluded by the craft and subtilty of our old and perfidious enemy the French; but we promise on our part, we will try all means to stop their proceeding further in their hostilities, and beg you will do the same.

Three strings of wampum.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We earnestly entreat, that you will immediately acquaint all the governors concerned, that we the six nations have not been inattentive to this important affair, but have already sent some of our people to take the hatchet out of the hands of our nephews the Delawares; and we should be glad that you would draw your troops from the frontiers; then we will endeavour to bring our nephews the Delawares to deliver up all the prisoners they have taken from their brethren the English, and to make the best acknowledgment in their power for their base and treacherous behaviour.

A belt.

Brethren of the six nations,

I am extremely pleased with your kind and friendly acknowledgements of my public condolence yesterday. And as all causes of uneasiness to either of us are now removed, I propose tomorrow to deliver you a speech relative to our present circumstances, which I hope you will be properly prepared to hear.

Ended.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE[1]

Copy[2]

February 19. 1756.

At a meeting of Several principal warriors, from the most remote parts of the Seneca's country, who never came down before to any meeting, the chief man named Kayandagaron, alias Kendorondy, Spoke as follows:

Brother Warraghiyagey,

I, with my party of warriors from Canuskako, the door of the six nations, embrace this first opportunity of shaking you by the hand, and of assuring you, that nothing but my regard for you, and my desire of hearing your sentiments from your own mouth, could have induced me, and my young men, to take such a journey at this time of the year, as we had several of our sachems attending at the meeting. We are now here at the fire-place of all the nations, and assure you we are heartily glad to see you.

Brethren of Canuskako.

As I have nothing more at heart than the welfare of the six nations, and their allies, it always gives me the most sensible pleasure to see, or even to hear from any of them, and more especially you, whom I never saw before, as it affords me an opportunity of commencing that acquaintance and friendship with you, which is natural among brethren, and which my inclination will always lead me to improve, especially with so brave a people as your nation has always been deemed.

Here I ended.

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[1] At Fort Johnson.

[2] Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 29.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE[1]

Copy[2]

[*Feb. 20–24, 1756*]

February 20. 1756.

Present at the following public speech

The hon. William Johnson, sole superintendant of their affairs,
The Rev. Dr. Ogilvie,
The Rev. Mr. Hawley,
Capt. Beckwith,
Lieut. Miller,
Lieut. Dunbar,
Lieut. Pottinger,
Lieut. Lee,
Lieut. Kennedy,
Lieut. Mills,
Ensign Penington,
Several Indian officers, and other gentlemen,
Three interpreters.

Brethren of the six united nations, your allies and dependants,

It always gives me the most solid pleasure to meet you here, that we may felicitate ourselves in the cherishing warmth and light of that fire, kindled here for our mutual good; may it ever burn bright as the sun that illuminates and guides the day, that you and your posterity, to the latest generations, may rejoice in its benevolent influence!

A belt.

Brethren,

It gives me a particular satisfaction to meet you here at this time, for two important reasons. The first is, that it affords us an opportunity of a friendly interview under the shade of that tree, which was lately so solemnly and judiciously planted; and of calmly consulting and maturely deliberating matters of the utmost consequence, and which nearly concerns our mutual safety, welfare and honour.

A belt.

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[1] At Fort Johnson.

[2] Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours* . . ., p. 30–50.

The second is, that it gives me an opportunity of shaking you by the hand with a brotherly affection, and in the name of the great King your Father, congratulating you upon our late happy success, which I make no doubt must give you the most sensible pleasure; and I flatter myself from your late repeated protestations of fidelity to your brethren the English, it will prove a means of animating you, and all your faithful allies, to stand forth with your usual bravery upon all future occasions.

A belt.

How much greater might our success have been! how much more sensibly would it have been felt by our treacherous and common enemy, had more of your warriors appeared in the field on that important day, had all our force been united? If the bubbling or drops of our war-kettle did so much, how great would have been the consequence, had it boiled with its usual fury! It would, like a mighty torrent, have carried all before it; and it would have sounded the fame of our victorious arms far and near, and spread universal terror all around us!

I, now, in the name of the great King your Father, in this public manner return you thanks for joining our arms last summer, and for your gallant behaviour in that Action. This gives him reason to expect the like fidelity and courageous conduct from you all for the future, and greatly endears you to him, and to all his loving subjects your affectionate brethren.

A belt.

This animates me with fresh pleasure and affection at this important conjuncture of affairs, to brighten and strengthen the covenant-chain, that has so long linked us together, in mutual friendship and mutual affection, which, I hope, will continue inviolable and sacred, as long as the sun shines, or the rivers continue to water the earth, notwithstanding all the intrigues of our old and perfidious enemies, who have left no means unessayed, and especially at this time, to weaken and divide us, that so they may in the event root out the remembrance of your name and nations from the face of the earth.

A large covenant-belt.

Brethren,

On my arrival from lake George last December, I had from your brother the governor of New York, and since from the governor of Pennsylvania, the shocking news of (your nephews) the Delawares and Shawanese falling upon your brethren of Pennsylvania, Maryland and Virginia in the most cruel and treacherous manner, killing and barbarously butchering the innocent defenceless people, who lived on the frontiers of the said governments; burning and destroying all they had, and that without any just cause or reason, as I understand. This I communicated to you by one of your own people, a Seneca, with a belt of wampum, desiring you would, without loss of time, put a stop to your nephews spilling any more of your brethrens blood; and that you would enquire into, and let me know the reason of such their wicked and unparaleled behaviour to the King's subjects, your brethren and friends. I now repeat the same, and expect to hear what you have done in consequence of said message and desire.

Brethren, I tell you with concern that I plainly foresee, unless you, the six nations, who have always maintained a superiority over the Indians, will now exert yourselves in this case, you will not only lose that authority which they hitherto acknowledged, but will have them your enemies.

A large black belt.

Brethren,

I told you before the governor of Pennsylvania had acquainted me with the base behaviour of your nephews the Shawanese and Delawares, and has also sent your friend Skaronyade, and Andrew Montour to you with his message, and to know your sentiments thereon: I desire and expect you will pay a just regard to his message, and afford him all the assistance you can, in bringing that unhappy affair to as good an issue as possible.

A belt.

Brethren,

I am now to acquaint you, that the great King of England, your Father, on the death of the late general Braddock, has committed the command of all his forces raised, and to be raised upon the continent of North America, to general Shirley; and has in a particular manner commanded him to protect your country, and the lands which your forefathers have conquered, and are of right your territories, against all violence and attempts of the French our common enemy; and to cultivate a strict friendship between him and you; he takes the first opportunity of communicating this to you by me, and of assuring you of his intentions, fully to follow his majesty's instructions herein.

A belt of black wampum.

Brethren,

General Shirley also desires me to acquaint you, that he is to have a great army this ensuing spring for the defence of your country, and the recovery of such parts of it as have been encroached upon by the French; and that in the meantime his majesty's troops in the province of New York, shall be held in readiness to defend you against any attempts the French may make before the opening of the campaign.

A belt.

Brethren,

On my return from New York, I received your kind message and information of the design of the French attacking his majesty's garrison at Oswego: I am extremely obliged to you for your friendly notice, which I immediately acquainted general Shirley and governor Hardy with, by express from Albany, who by their answers to me, are also greatly pleased with you, for the concern you shew for our mutual safety; and I expect you will not only continue your vigilence, but will also be ready (like unalterable friends and brethren) to use the ax which I gave you last summer, in conjunction with his majesty's troops, whenever called upon, either at Oswego, or any where else they may be employed, to the utmost of your power, as it is his majesty's intention to stand by you, and protect you, as well as his own subjects, against the insults or attempts of any enemy whatever. Believe me, Brethren, this is the proper time to convince your Father, the great King of England, and your Brethren, of your sincerity and attachment to their interest, by your acting vigorously with his troops, which I most heartily advise you to do, as it is of the utmost consequence to our mutual interest.

A large belt.

Brethren,

I must now acquaint you, that I propose meeting you at Oswego next spring, and desire you will join with me in the invitation I shall send to your friends and allies, far and near, to come to said meeting; when and where you and they shall receive a handsome present from your Father the great King of England, who is very desirous of bringing all nations worthy of his and your alliance, into the covenant-chain at that meeting. I hope, we shall then be able to make such an alliance, and settle matters in such a manner, and so much to our mutual advantage, as will give reason to all concerned, and their posterity, to bless that happy day we met together.

A belt.

The answer of the Six nations, the 21st
of February 1756.

Red Head, Speaker.

Present

The hon. Will. Johnson,	Lieut. Miller,
The Rev. Dr. Ogilvie,	Lieut. Dunbar,
Capt. Buckworth,	Three Interpreters.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We meet you with the greatest pleasure at this fire-place, and heartily join you in your wishes, that it may burn bright to the latest posterity; let us mutually endeavour to collect such materials for the use of this our fire, as may tend to support it in its full strength, as long as the sun and moon endureth.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We acknowledge that this tree was solemnly and judiciously planted for our mutual welfare, its roots reach to the remotest habitations of the confederacy, and its branches afford a friendly retreat to us and all our allies and dependants. Brother, take a tender care of it, see that it be fed plentifully by friendly streams, that it may increase and spread its branches so far, that it may be a sufficient shade, not only for us, but also for all other nations, which may hereafter come into our alliance.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We heartily rejoice with you upon our late success, and assure you it gives us a solid pleasure.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are extremely well pleased, that our late conduct was so highly acceptable to the great King our Father.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We assure you, that we, on our parts, do with equal pleasure and friendship join with you at this time of public commotion, in brightening and strengthening the covenant-chain, that has so long united us together. Let us mutually and steadfastly adhere to our engagements, notwithstanding the crafty intrigues of our perfidious and blood-thirsty enemies. Let us vigorously endeavour to frustrate all their treacherous designs, that so we may reap the good effects of this our union, which has long been the object of their envy. With this belt we do most solemnly renew the engagements of the antient covenant-chain.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We always look'd upon the Delawares as the more immediate care of Onas,[1] that they were within the circle of his arms; we therefor are of opinion, that he has not taken that friendly care of them as he ought to do, and therefore our common enemy hath taken the advantage of his neglect; for we can't but think, that if there had been proper measures taken, they would have still continued faithful friends to the English Interest.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are sensible of the care of the great King's appointing general Shirley to succeed general Braddock; and we are extremely thankful for the particular instructions he has given him, to cultivate a strict friendship between us and him, and to protect our lands, and recover those encroached upon by our common enemy: we hope and expect, that he will strictly adhere to his majesty s incursions of our treacherous enemies, and use his utmost endeavours to recover those lands which they have clandestinely wrested out of our hands.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are very thankful for the assurance he gives us, that the soldiers posted in this province are to hold themselves in readiness to defend us upon any sudden emergency; for we assure you, we are apprehensive, that as the French find, that all their delusive and wheedling arts have not had their desired effect, they may throw off their disguise, and rush in upon us with a voracious fury, like the wolves of the wilderness.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are pleased that the information we give, with respect of the designs of the French against Oswego, has been acceptable to you, and our Brethren the English; and we promise, for the future, to keep up a strict vigilance. The ax has been frequently put into the hands of our forefathers, by our brethren the English, and they always used it with the utmost vigour, till it was taken out of their hands. We assure you, that we intend, punctually, to conform to the bright and brave examples they set us; and we hope, this will be a sufficient proof of our sincerity and fidelity to the great King our Father.

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[1] "by Onas, they, here, mean governor Morris." [Ed's note.]

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

Your proposal of taking a few embers from the fire at Onondago, to kindle a fire at Oswego, and meeting us there this spring, is highly acceptable to us, as we have good reason to think that the light and warmth of that fire, will invite many nations to meet us there; and, we make no doubt that the things you will propose to their consideration, will carry such light and conviction with them, as will be sufficient to engage them to join in our confederacy; and we promise, to use the utmost endeavours to accomplish that great event; and we doubt not, but that our childrens children will have reason to remember that happy day.

Brother, we very chearfully concur with this your proposal, as we are convinced you will propose nothing but what is for our mutual interest.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We have now opened our minds with freedom and sincerity, and we understand each other clearly; let us mutually remember our engagements, which we have again so solemnly renewed; and if at any time, our enemy should attack us, prove, by your readiness to support and assist us, that you really love us; and we assure you, we shall not be wanting on our parts, to give proofs of the fidelity and friendship.

A belt.

At a meeting of the Six nations, February the 23d. 1756.

Present

The hon. Will. Johnson,	Capt. Butler, and other Indian officers,
The Rev. Dr. Ogilvie,	
The Rev. Mr. Hawley,	Three interpreters.

Brethren,

As it was very cold and late when I delivered you my speech on Friday night, I told you, I would then postpone some things I had further to say; I now take this opportunity of communicating them to you.

In the first place I must recommend to you, in the strongest manner, as his majesty's troops will be passing and repassing to Oswego next spring, that you endeavour all in your power to keep open the road thither, and not suffer any obstructions or stoppages to be thrown in the way by the enemy, as there is the greatest necessity, for our keeping that road clear and open, it being for our mutual interest and safety.

A belt.

Brethren,

Now is your time, to have forts or trading-houses built in your countries, while your Father the great King of England has your interest so much at heart: if at any time you incline to have such built in any of your castles, only let me know it, and it shall be done.

A belt.

Brethren,

Governor Hardy desired me to acquaint you, that he had a present from your Father the King for you, which he intends to deliver to you here, as soon as possibly he can, and expects your attendance.

Three strings.

Brethren,

The one great end proposed in calling you here, at this season of the year, was, to have that affair of the Delawares and Shawanese settled; but I am sorry to find you are not so hearty in the affair, as I expected you would, or as, at this important time, you ought to be; I must therefore urge you, most strenuously, to fall upon and settle this affair, before you leave this place, as there is no time to be lost; besides, your brethren of the several governments, with impatience, wait the result of this meeting, on which, let me tell you, much depends.

A large belt.

Brethren,

It is my kind concern for your welfare, that leads me to propose the following advice to you. I have your happiness very much at heart, and most zealously wish your prosperity; therefore I conjure you, to observe and follow the friendly hints, I am now going to give you.

1st. Endeavour to bring as many nations of Indians into your alliance as possibly you can; and try all means, without loss of time, to settle the minds of all such as are wavering, and those who are now ready to rebel against you. If you can accomplish this, let your study be, ever after, to keep up that correspondence faith and friendship with them, which is absolutely necessary between friends and allies, and without which, neither friendship or alliance can long subsist.

2dly. I would have you to adhere, inviolably, to all the engagements you have, or shall enter into, with your brethren the English; who have always been your steady friends, and are determined ever to continue such: besides, they are the ablest, and will be the readiest to protect and defend you against any attempt of an enemy; and moreover, can, and will supply you, and all your allies, with the necessaries of life at a cheaper rate, than the French can.

3dly. Be not any longer wheedled, blindfolded, and imposed on, by the artful speeches of the French; for their tongues are full of deceit; do not imagine the fine cloaths, &c. they give you, are given out of love or regard to you; no! they are only as baits to catch fish; they mean to enslave you thereby, and entail that curse upon your children, after you, who will have reason to repent the day you begot them; be assured they are your inveterate, implacable enemies, and only wish, for a difference to arise between you and us, that they may put you out of their way, by cutting you off the face of the earth.

4thly. Fall upon a method of collecting each nation into a compact body: where you have good land, and a good situation, there fortify your castle in such a manner, as you may be able to defend yourselves, against any number with small arms: above all things, be unanimous in your councils, and also in the field.

5thly. If at any time your brethren the English, or any of your Indian allies, are injured or threatened from any quarter, the whole body of the confederacy should rise, and endeavour to bring about an honourable accommodation; but if your enemy should not hearken to reason, but still persist in acting unjustly, then the whole body should, as one man, join their arms against the enemy; by which means, you will always be able to bring them to what terms may be thought proper: you will, in that state, be a terror to the French, who now, well knowing your unsettled, divided disposition, at every turn of the wind, use threats and menaces against you. Be not afraid of them; cleave to your brethren the English, and they cannot hurt you.

6thly. If you duly observe these wholesome admonitions, you will again become numerous, and retrieve your pristine fame. Then, the very name of the six nations, and their allies, will be a terror to their enemies! and their arms will carry conquest with them, as heretofore.

7thly. But, brethren and friends, if you continue any longer in your past, lethargic and supine state, and neglect this my friendly advice, and earnest desire, I greatly fear you will, sooner or later, have cause to repent it, and wish too late you had followed it. Let all your youngest people hear what I say, and your men and women seriously consider it; and let your and their memory witness for me, that I have given you all this timely and wholesome advice.

Take this pipe to your great council-chamber at Onondago, let it hang there in view; and should you be wavering in your minds at any time, take and smoke out of it, and think of my advice given with it, and you will recover and think properly.

Gave the largest pipe in America, made on purpose.

As it is now late, I shall deliver you the present I have got, made on purpose for you, to-morrow morning; by which time, I hope to have your definitive answer, to the points I now spoke to you upon.

Ended here.

The answer of the Six nations, February 24th, 1756.

Red Head, speaker.

Present,

The hon. William Johnson, Capt. Butler, and other Indian
The Rev. Dr. Ogilvie, officers,
The Rev. Mr. Hawley, Three interpreters.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

You have very seasonably put us in mind of that superiority which we, by a series of conquests, have obtained over the Delawares, Shawanese and other; we are sensible of it, and therefore, no sooner did you send us the shocking tidings of their treacherous and barbarous behaviour, but we looked upon ourselves nearly concerned to interpose; we immediately dispatched a message to them, to enquire into the cause of this their unparelleled conduct; we backed this with a second message, with equal warmth; both proving abortive, we obtained an interview by the means of our brethren of Oneida. At this meeting, we reminded them of their subordination, we shook them by the hand and demanded the reasons of their conduct; we put them in mind how contrary this behaviour was to the covenant subsisting between the confederacy and the English; we told them, that our latest posterity would have reason to curse their action, and that it would give our brethren reason to suspect us all of treachery, while we so basely abuse the confidence they repose in us; we again and again desired they would immediately change their behaviour, at least, that they would suspend hostilities, 'till they heard from us at our return from this meeting: they seemed sensible of their fault, and promised they would cease committing any further hostilities.

A string of wampum.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We look upon you as one of our own body, and, therefore, as you have out of sincere regard to our common welfare, pressed upon us to put an effectual stop to the ravages and devastations made by our nephews the Delawares and Shawanese; we solemnly promise in the name of the sachems and warriors of the five nations, that we will use our utmost endeavour, to put a speedy and effectual stop to those unhappy proceedings; and it is the firm resolution of the whole confederacy, to conform themselves entirely to your reasonable request in this important point; but, as the Mohawks are the head of our confederacy, we leave the management of that affair entirely to them. We sincerely wish, that the great Spirit, who governs all things, may succeed them in this important undertaking, as it will greatly contribute to our mutual happiness and strength.

This confirmed with a large belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

The Missisagas acknowledge a message sent them by General Shirley last year, giving them an invitation to meet him at Oswego: they answer, that the season of the year was too far advanced to admit of a meeting then; but that, they promise to come early in the spring, and be attentive to what their brethren the English have to say.

They desired that this string might be kept at Onondago, lest it might be intercepted by the French; for, should they be acquainted with their design of meeting the English, they feared they would fall upon and destroy them.

A string of wampum.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

Be attentive to what I now propose, they are the real sentiments of the five nations, not meerly the sounds of their breath, but the genuine resolutions of their hearts. Look upon this belt[1] as a pledge of our inviolable attachment to you, and of our unshaken resolution, of joining you in all your measures: our determinations are founded upon clear conviction, as clear as that sun that now shines in the firmament. We shall send this belt to the Senecas, that from thence it may be conveyed to the remotest nations, as an emblem of the happiness we enjoy by our union; at the same time kindly inviting them to come in and join our covenant chain.

Brother, you may depend upon this as our resolutions, which we will put into immediate execution.

What you have said, in regard to the trade, we look upon as a convincing proof of your love and affection to us, and it gives us pleasure that it now becomes a matter of serious consideration with you; we are sensible of your ability to supply us with all the necessaries of life cheaper and better than the French can possibly do: indeed, brother, there is nothing you should more seriously attend to, as it would greatly tend to cement that friendship that subsists between us, and would be the most likely means of bringing in the most remote nations to an acquaintance and union with us.

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[1] "This belt was the largest ever given! upon it was wrought the sun, by way of the emblem of light, and some figures representing the six nations; it was intended to signify, that they now saw objects in their proper light, and that they were fully convinced of the truth of every thing proposed." [Ed's note.]

A prodigious large belt!

The general had frequently insisted upon knowing their resolutions, with respect to the ravages committed by the Delawares &c. This paragraph is intended as an apology, for their not making their answer sooner.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

You have most earnestly and frequently pressed us to accommodate that unhappy breach, between the Delawares and our brethren the English; our delay did not proceed from any backwardness on our part, but from the great sense we had of its importance: we hope you have received satisfaction upon that head, by the great belt we just now delivered with so much solemnity and sincerity.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

You have acquainted us, that the great King, our Father, is firmly resolved to defend our country, and recover such parts of it, as the French have encroached upon; also, to protect us to the utmost of his power, by erecting forts for our safety and defence; we are grateful for this insistance of his goodness; but have not yet concluded any thing with regard to the latter.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

You have informed us, that the governor of New York has a present for us, from the great king, our Father, we are thankful for it; but are afraid, that as it comes so soon upon the back of this meeting, it will be inconvenient for our aged people to attend; but our warriors shall come upon that occasion.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

As you have given us a large pipe, to be a constant memorial of the important advice you have given us, when you are dead and gone, and to smoke out of it, at our public meeting-place, when we jointly and maturely reflect upon our engagements; we assure you, we shall hang it up in our council-chamber, and make proper use of it upon all occasions; we likewise beg, that you on your part, will likewise seriously consider your engagements, and faithfully perform them.

The general concluded with the following words:

Brethren,

I do not think you have been so explicit, with regard to what I proposed to you, concerning your keeping open a clear road to Oswego, as I could wish.

They made the following apology:

Brother Warraghiyagey,

With respect to the article relative to the keeping open the road to Oswego, we imagined our answer was contained in our general reply, wherein we assured you, we would support and assist each other, upon all occasions; but as you did not look upon that sufficient, we now assure you, that we shall punctually conform to your desire, herein.

The General added:

The present waits your acceptance. As there has been frequent complaints, with respect to the division of the presents given at these public meetings, it is my earnest desire, that they may be so divided, as to prevent all jealousy and complaints.

He then delivered them a very handsome publick present; which, together with the private gifts, to the several chiefs and sachems, amounted to,

York currency [1]£1085 9 8½.

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[1] "Upwards of £620 sterling." [Ed's note.]

Scarroyady and Andrew Montour return with an Account of the Disposition of the Indians towards us at this critical Conjuncture, and the Result of General Johnson's Treaty with the Six Nations, which are now very soon expected

February 20th: 1756.

Signed by Order of the House,
Isaac Norris, Speaker

At a Council held in the State House at Philadelphia Tuesday 24th: February 1756.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

James Hamilton
Benjamin Shoemaker
Richard Peters
John Mifflin
Robert Strettell
Joseph Turner
Lynford Lardner
Thomas Cadwalader } Esquires

Benjamin Franklin
Joseph Fox
John Hughes } Esquires

The Indians

Conrad Weiser Esquire, Interpreter. John Davison Assistant

Two of the Six Nation Indians Aroas and David the Mohock were sent at the Instance of the Governor up the River Sasquehannah to gain Intelligence of the Motions and Number of the Enemy Indians, and to try to find out the Shickcalamys and Jonathan Cayanquiloquoa, and bring them along with them; and Captain McKee, who had the Command of a Fort at Hunter's Mill near the Place where the Blue Hills cross the Sasquehannah, had the Governor's Directions, as these Indians in their Return were desired to come that way, to keep a good Look out for them, and to send them under an Escort to Mr. Weisers, to whom they were to deliver their Intelligence, and he was directed to send it by Express to the Governor at Philadelphia.

Accordingly the two Indians returned by Captain McKees, and John Shickcalamy and his Wife with them, and were ordered a Guard to conduct them to Mr. Weisers, but they, especially John Shickcalamy, declared positively they would not go thro Tulpyhocon, being apprehensive that the Dutch would fall upon them, and either kill them, or do them a Mischief, but that they would go thro' Lancaster to Philadelphia, and deliver what they had to say to the Governor in Person, and insisted that Capt. McKee should go along with them to protect them. When they came to Harris's, they found there the Belt, Jagrea and Newcastle, who joined them, and when they came to Lancaster, John Shickcalamy, having a Sister among the Connestogoe Indians sent for her, and at Lancaster she and the Connestogoe Indians joined them. On Saturday they came to Town, making in all Persons, Men, Women and Children.

. On Monday morning the Governor sent the Secretary to welcome them to Town, and in particular John Shick Calamy, and to make them the usual Compliments of drying up their Tears, and taking away the Grief out of their Hearts, that they might be at Liberty to declare the Buſineſs they came upon; and after they had returned Thanks, and made the Governor the same Compliments, they said the two Meſsengers and he Shick Calamy, who they had brought along with them, woud say nothing to them nor any body else, Whiteman or Indian, of what they had to say, but would go directly to the Governor, and tell it to him in Person, and therefore they came along with them, and desired they might be heard in their Presence, on which the Governor had called the Council, and understanding by Mr. Hamilton and Mr. Mifflin that the Commiſsioners were in the Committee Chamber, the Governor sent for them.

Mr. Weiser before the Indians came in informed the Governor, that he had received a String from John Shick Calamy, and a Meſsage to the Government, which he delivered in these Words.

Brethren, the Governor, Council and People of Pennsylvania,

My Father, who it is well known was all his Life an hearty and steady Friend to the English, and to this Province in particular, charged all his Children to follow his Steps, and to remain always true to the English, who had been ever kind to him and his Family- That upon the Troubles first breaking out between the Indians and the white People, the Indians came to Shamokin, and obliged him and his Brothers against their Inclinations to stay with them, but that he had the good Fortune to get from among them which he was glad of, and he was now come to his Brethren to aſsure them, that tho he had been absent for some time, and among their Enemies, yet it was against his Will, being forced to it, and he was still their good Friend, and would live and dye with them, and desired they would receive him as such, nor think harm of him, and that he would go with them and their Warriors against their Enemies, wherever they should order him, and aſsist them all in his Power.

A String of Wampum.

The Governor ordered the Secretary to return his Answer to John Shick Calamy, and aſsure him, that he was glad to see him, that the Government gave him an hearty Reception, and would make every thing agreeable to him, and take care of his Family.

The Indians then came in, and being told that the Governor was ready to hear them, the Belt spoke as follows,

Brethren, the Governor, Council and People of Pennsylvania,

I am glad of the Opportunity of seeing you in this Place, where the Council Fire is always burning.

The Governor when at Carlisle after the Conferences with us were over desired us to find him two fit and trusty Persons to send up the River Sasquehannah to see what was doing there among the Indians, who had fallen upon this Province, and murdered the Inhabitants; and likewise to enquire after some of his particular Friends, and if poſsible to know what was become of them, and to endeavour to find them, and to bring them to see him.

Afterwards Mr. Weiser came to us at Harris's, and mentioned this again to us, and it was agreed that my Son in Law and David the Mohock should undertake the Journey, and execute the Governor's Commands.

By them I sent a Belt to some Delaware Indians of my Acquaintance living on the Sasquehannah, and with it a Meſsage to the Delawares, which was concerted between me and Conrad Weiser, and was to this Effect; that I was surprized to hear of their murdering the English, as the Indians and English had all along lived in Friendship together. I desired they would open their Hearts to me, and let me know the Reason of their Hatred towards the English, and of the cruel Murders they comitted among them; whether they had not had Justice done them in Land Affairs, or any other thing; I preſsed them to give me this Satisfaction, and speak all they knew.

Brethren,

As I said before, this Meſsage was with the Foreknowledge and Approbation of Conrad Weiser; and this Belt accompanied it. Besides the Belt I sent two Strings, one recommending the Busineſs given in charge by the Governor as to Intelligence, and the other to enquire after the two Persons of whose Welfare the Governor wanted in particular to be informed of.

My Son Aroas and his Companion David the Mohock arrived at Wyomink, having waded many big Creeks and Rivers (Nescopechon being deserted) and finding it would be as much as their Lives were worth to enter the Delaware Town, they acquainted some of the Six Nation Indians with it, who lived in a Town by themselves with some Chickasaws and Mohickons; who upon considering the Matter thought proper to get the Shawonese to take the thing in hand, and speak to the Delawares, and laid the thing before them accordingly; they likewise living in a Town by themselves. Paxonosa their Chief received their Meſsage, and went to hold a separate Council with his People by themselves; after the Conclusion thereof they sent for two of the Six Nation Indians, and the Indian called James Logan and another went to them, and received and brought back an Answer from Paxonosa and his People, to wit,

Brethren,

We have considered the Meſsage from our Brother Tohaswuchdoniunty brought up by Aroas, we think it is in vain to speak one word more to our Grandfathers the Delawares. I spoke so often to them to the same Purpose, till at last they threatened to knock me on the head; and what can I do since Scarroyady a Man of Authority among the Six Nations, and of great Experience and Eloquence could not prevail on them. They would not so much as touch his Belts he laid before them. They throwed them on one side with their Pipes, and gave him ill Language. So upon the whole we must give over, and we desire that you will excuse us; and said farther (Here the Two Interpreters differed, and their different Interpretations are as follow)

Brethren, You are more able to acquaint our Brethren the English, why the Delawares deserted their Interest. You know what paſsed on Monongohela, and from that Time Affairs took another Turn. Scarroyady very well knows, that from that time the Delawares were turned, and became another People, and Strangers to us.

Brethren, you are more able to acquaint our Brethren the English, why the Delawares deserted their Interest; you had all along frequent Correspondence with them, especially when Scarroyady was here, who is acquainted with every thing that paſsed since the Defeat of the English at Monongohela, and some of your People (Two we know) went out with them to fight against the English.

The Belt, after consulting Aroas, proceeded and gave from him this further Account, that two Delaware Indians, one of them named Yoristagery (in English cut fingerd Peter) went from Neshopechon soon after the Murders were committed on the Borders of Pennsylvania to the Seneca Country, and took with them an English Scalp and a Belt of Wampum tied together and told there, that the English had killed a good many of their People, and that they had revenged themselves of the People of Pennsylvania, in token whereof they gave them that Scalp and the Belt of Wampum; but the Senecas were surprized at the Sight thereof, and rejected the Belt; and the Delawares having received a disagreeable Answer, did not return to Nescopechon, but went to the Ohio.

At a Council held in the State House at Philadelphia Thursday 26th: Febry 1756.

Present

James Hamilton
Benjamin Shoemaker
Richard Peters
Robert Strettle
Joseph Turner
John Mifflin } Esquires

Benjamin Franklin
Joseph Fox
John Hughes } Esquires

The Indians

Conrad Weiser Esquire, Interpreter. John Davison, Aſsistant.

The Governor went yesterday into Jersey, but before he went he sent for the Indians to dine with him, and acquainted them that he was obliged to go out of Town; but that they might do their Busineſs with the Council, who woud

meet

the latter End of next Month, we apprehend no Inconveniencies can ensue from our not giving a determined answer to the Governor's Message of the Seventeenth Instant, which may be resumed as the advices we now daily expect to receive from General Johnson may render it necessary.

"By the Papers and Accounts the Governor has been pleased to lay before us on this Occasion, it appears that great Numbers of Indians were expected at the Treaty to be held with the Six Nations; and from General Johnson's Knowledge and known Abilities in conducting Indian Affairs, we may reasonably expect a happy Issue of that Treaty; but whatever it may be, we shall be better able to determine the Part this Province ought to act in this Matter; when Scarroyady and Andrew Montour return with an Account of the Disposition of the Indians towards us at this critical Conjuncture, and the Result of General Johnson's Treaty with the Six Nations, which are now very soon expected.

"Signed by order of the House.

"ISAAC NORRIS, Speaker.

"February 20th, 1756."

At a Council held in the State House at Philadelphia, Tuesday, 24th February, 1756.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor,

James Hamilton, Robert Strettell,
Benjamin Shoemaker, Joseph Turner,
Richard Peters, Lynford Lardner,
John Mifflin, Thomas Cadwalader, Esquires.

Benjamin Franklin,
Joseph Fox,
John Hughes, Esquires.

The Indians.

Conrad Weiser, Esquire, Interpreter.
John Davison, Assistant.

Two of the Six Nation Indians, Aroas and David, the Mohock, were sent at the Instance of the Governor up the River Sasquehannah to gain Intelligence of the Motions and Number of the Enemy Indians, and to try to find out the Shickcalamys and Jonathan Cayanquiloquoa, and bring them along with them, and Captain McKee who had the command of a Fort at Hunter's Mill near the Place where the Blue Hills cross the Sasquehannah, had the Governor's Directions, as these Indians in their Return were desired to come that way, to keep a good lookout for them, and to send them under an Escort to Mr. Weiser's, to whom they were to deliver their Intelligence, and he was directed to send it by Express to the Governor at Philadelphia,

Accordingly the two Indians returned by Capt McKee's, and John Shickcalamy and his wife with them, and were ordered a Guard to conduct them to Mr. Weiser's, but they, especially John Shickcalamy declared positively they would not go thro' Tulpyhoccon, being apprehensive that the Dutch would fall upon them, and either kill them or do them a Mischief, but that they would go thro' Lancaster to Philadelphia, and deliver what they had to say to the Governor in Person, and insisted that Capt. McKee should go along with them to protect them. When they came to Harris' they found there the Belt, Jagrea, and New Castle, who joined them, and when they came to Lancaster, John Shickcalamy, having a Sister among the Conestogoe Indians, sent for her, and at Lancaster she and the Conestogoe Indians joined them. On Saturday they came to Town, making in all —— Men, Women, and Children.

On Monday morning the Governor sent the Secretary to welcome them to Town, and in particular John Shickcalamy, and to make them the usual Compliments of drying up their Tears, and taking away the Grief out of their Hearts, that they might be at Liberty to declare the Business they came upon; and after they had returned thanks, and made the Governor the same Compliments, they said the two Messengers and he, Shickcalamy, who they had brought along with them, wou'd say nothing to them or any body else, Whiteman or Indian, of what they had to say, but would go directly to the Governor and tell it to him in Person, and therefore they came along with them, and desired they might be heard in their Presence, on which the Governor had called the Council, and understanding by Mr. Hamilton and Mr. Mifflin, that the Commissioners were in the Committee Chamber, the Governor sent for them.

Mr. Weiser, before the Indians came in, informed the Governor that he had received a String from John Shickcalamy, and a Message to the Government, which he delivered in these words:

"Brethren, the Governor, Council, and People of Pennsylvania:

"My Father, who it is well known was all his Life an hearty and steady Friend to the English, and to this Province in particular, charged all his children to follow his Steps and to remain always true to the English, who had been ever kind to him and his family. That upon the troubles first breaking out between the Indians and the white People, the Indians came to Shamokin and obliged him and his Brothers against their Inclinations to stay with them, but that he had the good Fortune to get from among them, which he was glad of, and he was now come to his Brethren to assure them that tho' he had been absent for some time and among their Enemies, yet it was against his Will, being forced to it, and he was still their good Friend and would live and dye with them, and desired they would receive him as such nor think harm of him, and that he would go with them and their Warriors against their Enemies wherever they should order him, and assist them all in his Power."

A String of Wampum.

The Governor Ordered the Secretary to return his Answer to John Shickcalamy and assure him that he was glad to see him; that the Government gave him an hearty Reception, and would make every thing agreeable to him and take care of his Family.

The Indians then came in and being told that the Governor was ready to hear them, the Belt spoke as follows:

"Brethren, the Governor, Council, and People of Pennsylvania:

"I am glad of the Opportunity of seeing you in this Place, where the Council Fire is always burning.

"The Governor, when at Carlisle, after the Conferences with us were over, desired us to find him two fit and trusty Persons to send up the River Sasquehannah, to see what was doing there among the Indians who had fallen upon this Province and murdered the Inhabitants, and likewise to enquire after some of his particular Friends, and if possible to know what was become of them, and to endeavour to find them and to bring them to see him.

"Afterwards Mr. Weiser came to us at Harris', and mentioned this again to us, and it was agreed that my Son-in-Law and David, the Mohock, should undertake the Journey, and execute the Governor's Commands.

"By them I sent a Belt to some Delaware Indians of my Acquaintance living on the Sasquehannah, and with it a Message to the Delawares, which was concerted between me and Conrad Weiser, and was to this Effect: that I was surprised to hear of their murdering the English, as the Indians and English had all along lived in Friendship together. I desired they would open their Hearts to me and let me know the Reason of their Hatred towards the English and of the cruel murders they comitted among them, whether they had not had Justice done them in Land Affairs or any other thing. I pressed them to give me this Satisfaction and Speak all they knew.

"Brethren:

"As I said before, this Message was with the Foreknowledge and approbation of Conrad Weiser, and this Belt accompanied it. Besides the Belt I sent two Strings—one recommending the Business given in charge by the Governor as to Intelligence, and the other to enquire after the two Persons of whose Welfare the Governor wanted in particular to be informed of.

"My son Aroas and his Companion David, the Mohock, arrived at Wyomink, having waded many big Creeks and Rivers (Nescopeckon being deserted), and finding it would be as much as their Lives were worth to enter the Delaware Town, they acquainted some of the Six Nation Indians with it, who lived in a Town by themselves, with some Chickasaws and Mohickons, who upon considering the Matter thought proper to get the Shawonese to take the thing in hand and speak to the Delawares, and laid the thing before them accordingly, they likewise living in a Town by themselves. Paxonosa, their Chief, received their Message, and went to hold a separate Council with his People by themselves; after the Conclusion thereof they sent for two of the Six Nation Indians, and the Indian called James Logan and another went to them and received and brought back an Answer from Paxonosa and his People, to wit:

"'Brethren:

"'We have considered the Message from our Brother Tohaswuchdoniunty brought up by Aroas; we think it is in vain to speak one word more to our Grandfathers, the Delawares. I spoke so often to them to the same Purpose, till at last they threatened to knock me on the head, and what can I do since Scarrooyady, a Man of Authority among the Six Nations, and of great Experience and Eloquence, could not prevail on them. They would not so much as touch his Belts he laid before them. They throwed them on one side with their Pipes, and gave him ill Language. So upon the whole we must give over, and we desire that you will excuse us;' and said farther (Here the Two Interpreters differed, and their different Interpretations are as follow):

"'Brethren: you are more able to acquaint our Brethren the English, why the Delawares deserted their Interest. You know what passed on Monongohela, and from that Time Affairs took another Turn. Scarroyady very well knows that from that time the Delawares were turned, and became another People and Strangers to us.'

"'Brethren: you are more able to acquaint our Brethren the English why the Delawares deserted their Interest, you had all along frequent Correspondence with them, especially when Scarroyady was here who is acquainted with every thing that passed since the Defeat of the English at Monongohela, and some of your People (Two we know) went out with them to fight against the English.'"

The Belt, after consulting Aroas, proceeded and gave from him this further account: "that two Delaware Indians, one of them named Yoristagery (in English, cut-finger'd Peter) went from Nescopeckon soon after the Murders were committed on the Borders of Pennsylvania, to the Seneca Country, and took with them an English Scalp and a Belt of Wampum tied together, and told there that the

English had killed a good many of their People, and that they had revenged themselves of the People of Pennsylvania, in token, whereof, they gave them that Scalp and the Belt of Wampum; but the Senecas were surprised at the Sight thereof and rejected the Belt, and the Delawares having received a disagreeable Answer did not return to Nescopeckon but went to the Ohio."

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE[1]

Copy[2]

At a private meeting of the Oneidas nation,

February 25th, 1756

Canaghquaeson their speaker, spoke as follows:

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We, some time ago, applied to General Shirley, to have a fort built, for the security of our castle; we now acquaint you with our unanimous resolution of having one, and should be glad it could be accomplished as soon as possible, and that you will be particularly careful, in the choice of those you employ in that work; and to charge them strictly, by no means, to bring any spiritous liquor among our people, as they are very ungovernable and turbulent when intoxicated by liquor.

A string of wampum.

Brethren,

As I have general orders to build forts, for the safety and protection of any of our brethren of the six nations; I do, with the greatest chearfulness comply with your request, and shall immediately employ proper persons to that purpose: I am convinced it must be the fault of those people, whom General Shirley employed, that it was not done sooner, for he had given orders for that purpose so long ago as last October.

Then the Tuscarora chief spoke,

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We have some time since set up stockadoes for the defence of our castle, as we were, and are still, apprehensive of the

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[1] At Fort Johnson.

[2] Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 50–52.

French acting against us in a hostile manner; we as yet want some blockhouses, to make it the more defensible, and some soldiers to garrison it, which we hope will be readily granted us we acknowledge the receipt of the swivels and ammunition, you so seasonable sent us; for which, we return you our hearty thanks.

Brethren,

I shall represent your case to General Shirley, who, I doubt not, will readily grant you a sufficient number of men to garrison your fort; and as to the blockhouses you desire, when I go to Oswego, I shall point out a proper situation for them, and then order them to be built.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE[1]

Copy[2]

[*Feb. 25–26, 1756*]

At a meeting of the Kanuskago Indians, February 25th, 1756.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We the warriors of the Kanuskago, upon our arrival, informed you, we were come down merely to see you, and hear your words at this publick meeting; as we are young and unexperienced, and have never been at any meeting with the governor, we hope you will make a kind allowance, for our want of ability in speaking; and we beg leave to assure you, that the reason of our never attending the meetings before, was not the want of affection to the English, but was entirely owing to our remote situation, which prevented a timely and proper notice.

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[1] At Fort Johnson.

[2] Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 52–55.

French acting against us in a hostile manner; we as yet want some blockhouses, to make it the more defensible, and some soldiers to garrison it, which we hope will be readily granted us we acknowledge the receipt of the swivels and ammunition, you so seasonable sent us; for which, we return you our hearty thanks.

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Brother Warraghiyagey,

As goods are vastly dear and ordinary in our parts, upon our determination to come to this meeting, we thought proper to bring some skins and furs with us, in order to purchase some necessaries for ourselves and families; and we beg you will, as a brother, direct us where we may be supplied with the best, and upon the most reasonable terms.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We beg leave to assure you, nothing can give us more satisfaction than the speech we heard you deliver to the six nations, on our arrival; as it contained nothing but what is quite right, and has a direct tendency to our welfare, we think our time well spent in coming down; for, if we had not, probably we should not have heard all you have said, for we are convinced, from what we now heard you say, that our sachems heretofore, have smothered the greatest part of your former advices; and we assure you, we shall now spread your advice among all our people, who are considerably numerous.

Threw down a pack of skins.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

As we are warriors, we are not acquainted with the ceremonials of publick meetings, and, therefore, express what we have to say, in a narrow compass; we have no more to offer at present, and hope, you will excuse the trouble we have given you on this occasion.

And so ended.

Brethren,

I have given attention to your words, and shall seriously consider your desire; but cannot give you an answer until to-morrow; I chuse to deliberate maturely upon every thing that I say, because my word once given, is as binding as cement to a stone.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We return you thanks, for your kind promises, of considering our desire, and as we see you are crowded, and full of business, of more importance, we shall with patience wait your leisure.

February 26th, 1756.

Brethren,

I told you last night, that I paid due attention to what you had said, and would consider your request, and give you answer this day. In the first place, I assure you, it gives me no small pleasure to hear, that my speech was so agreeable to you, and that you would acquaint all your nation with the contents of it. I beg you will not fail in this particular, as it points out, what will make you a happy people, if duly attended to; which, from your unanimity and zeal at this conference, I have no reason to doubt. I am sorry you have not been duly invited to former meetings, agreeable to my orders, and promise that for the future you shall have proper notice; and I hope you will be always ready to assist us, both in the council and the field, with all the chiefs and warriors of that castle, who shall be treated as friends and brethren.

Brethren,

In the next place, as I have no goods to sell myself, I will take all possible care that you are not imposed upon in your trade, at Schenectady. I shall give directions to Mr. Stevens, the interpreter, to assist you, and see that justice be done you, in every respect, for I have a great regard for your castle, and as a proof of it I present you with these goods.

Giving them at the same time a handsome present, and three silver gorgets to three of their principal warriors, viz. Tarrawariax, Tahononsaronwe, and Kindarundy, who was the chief.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We return you our hearty thanks, for all your kind expressions of affection, and love shewn to us at this time; and we in return assure you, that you may depend on our sincerity and

readiness to serve you, whenever you call upon us; and you know very well, that whatever warriors promise is sacred.

Brethren,

I return you thanks for your sincere professions of friendship.

And so parted.

them. They throwed them on one side with their Pipes, and gave him ill Language. So upon the whole we must give over, and we desire that you will excuse us; and said farther (Here the Two Interpreters differed, and their different Interpretations are as follow)

Brethren, You are more able to acquaint our Brethren the English, why the Delawares deserted their Interest. You know what paſsed on Monongohela, and from that Time Affairs took another Turn. Scarroyady very well knows, that from that time the Delawares were turned, and became another People, and Strangers to us.

Brethren, you are more able to acquaint our Brethren the English, why the Delawares deserted their Interest; you had all along frequent Correspondence with them, especially when Scarroyady was here, who is acquainted with every thing that paſsed since the Defeat of the English at Monongohela, and some of your People (Two we know) went out with them to fight against the English.

The Belt, after consulting Aroas, proceeded and gave from him this further Account, that two Delaware Indians, one of them named Yoristagery (in English cut fingerd Peter) went from Neshopechon soon after the Murders were committed on the Borders of Pennsylvania to the Seneca Country, and took with them an English Scalp and a Belt of Wampum tied together and told there, that the English had killed a good many of their People, and that they had revenged themselves of the People of Pennsylvania, in token whereof they gave them that Scalp and the Belt of Wampum; but the Senecas were surprized at the Sight thereof, and rejected the Belt; and the Delawares having received a disagreeable Answer, did not return to Nescopechon, but went to the Ohio.

At a Council held in the State House at Philadelphia Thursday 26th Febry 1756.

Present

James Hamilton
Benjamin Shoomaker
Richard Peters
Robert Strettle
Joseph Turner
John Mifflin } Esquires

Benjamin Franklin
Joseph Fox
John Hughes } Esquires

The Indians

Conrad Weiser Esquire, Interpreter. John Davison, Aſsistant.

The Governor went yesterday into Jersey, but before he went he sent for the Indians to dine with him, and acquainted them that he was obliged to go out of Town; but that they might do their Busineſs with the Council, who woud meet whenever they shall desire it; and the Indians this morning signifying by Mr. Weiser, that they wanted to finish what they left unsaid at their last Meeting, the Council was called, and the Commissioners being in the Committee Room were desired to be present.

Mr. Weiser delivered in a Paper which he said was settled between the Indians, Him and Davison in a Conference, and contained the true Interpretation of what was said by the Belt at the last Council, and the Minute of Tuesday was settled agreeable thereto.

The Secretary acquainted the Council, that he had delivered the Governor's Answer to John Shick Calamy, who was well pleased with it, He was uneasy, as the Enemy Indians were on the Departure when he came away, for fear least they might hear of his Journey here, and in his Absence do his Family some Mischief; and therefore desired he might return to Wyomink immediately to take care of his Family and promised to bring them and his Brothers along with him into the Province among his Brethren.

Mr. Weiser informed the Council, that John Shick Calamy had been open with him, and that he had committed his Information to writing, which he gave in, and it was read and orderd to be enterd, as follows.

Memorandum. February 22d. 1756.

I invited Tachnechdorus and his Wife to Breakfast with me, and to a private Interview. Gave him a String of Wampum, and said, Cousin, I am very glad to see you once more here in Philadelphia, I was very much troubled in my Mind about you, not knowing what was become of you and your Two Brothers; I have therefore sent for you in particular, to know how you fared since the Time that the Delawares began to murder the People of Pennsylvania, and to learn from you what might have been the Reason for their so doing, and where are our Friends the Six Nation Indians scattered about Pennsylvania; I desire you Cousin to tell me the whole Truth, and hide nothing from me, the Friendship that always subsisted between me and your deceased Father and his Children requires Truth and Openness.

Tachnechdorus made Answer as follows. Uncle, I am also very glad to see you, I will honestly tell you every thing I know, and answer every Question you may ask me. 1st: Query. Where did Aroas find you? Answer. At Wyomink. How came you there? Answer. I and my Brethren and Others of our Friends have been deceivd by the Delawares after this manner, to wit, when the Delawares from Ohio proclaimed War against the English, they forewarned all the Indians to come away from the English, and desired them to move up the North East Branch of Sasquehannah; a Council was called at Shamokin, and it was agreed to by the Indians there present, chiefly Delawares, to move to Nescopeckon for Safety.

The Attack of Thomas McKee and Others by the Ohio Indians contributed a great deal to that Resolution. I and my Family intended to go to your House, but the Delaware Indians would not let us go, and said the white People would certainly kill us, such and such Language they have made use of on the Frontier that they will kill all the Indians &c.a I went then to Neshkopechon with them and took my Family with me. After a while I found that the Neshkopechon Indians were in the French Interest. I with my Brethren and Others then began to be afraid, We would have gladly gone to our Brethren the English, but we dared not venture, being afraid of the back Inhabitants, and much more afraid of the Delawares, who told us in plain Terms, that if we offered to go down the River, they would look upon us as Brethren to the English and their Enemies. When the said Delawares began to bring English Scalps, we left the Town and went up to Wyomink, and there on the west Side a few Miles from the River, we gathered to the Number of thirty fighting Men of such Indians as would not join the Delawares in murdering the English, among whom were some Six Nations, Shawonese, Chickasaws, and Mohickons; and the Chief of the Shawonese was Paxonosa, of Wyomink, who is very hearty in the English Interest, and spoke very bold to the Delawares. They told him at last if he said one word more, they would knock him on the head. A certain chief of the Delawares by Name used all his Strength of Reason to diſsuade the Delawares from listening to the French, but to no Purpose, the Delawares silenced him also. Query. How strong are the Delawares now at Neshkopechon? Answer. Neshkopechon is deserted upon a Rumour that prevailed among them of your coming up with a large Number of Men to cut them off; and they the Delawares fled to Aſsarochney and higher up, having there a big Hill on one side and the River Sasquehannah on the other side of their present Town, and are nigher to Tiaoagon, another Delaware Town, who are Enemies to the English. How strong are they? Answer. Not much above one hundred, tho some will have them to be two hundred, but they include the Mohiccons, who they hope will join them. Query. Are there any white People amongst them? Answer. There are two or three Deserters from Oswego, who blacken themselves like Indians and go to fight with them. There are also some Prisoners taken from the English, who they give or sell to one another. I myself had two given to me, a Boy and a young Woman; I gladly accepted of them, in order to save their Lives, and I will by the first Opportunity deliver them up to this Government. Query. Are there none of the Six Nation Indians with the Delawares who go to fight against the English? Answer. Uncle, I will tell you the Truth, let the most high (Supream Being) hearken to what I say and chastise me if I hide any thing from you, or tell you a Lie. We have been in great Extremity for want of Provisions, the Delawares told us, that a large Country was deserted by the English on the River Delaware, and the Houses full of good Provisions, Flour, Bacon, Pork, Fat Hogs &c.a my two Brothers went with the Delawares to fetch Provisions from Delaware, the lame one whom you know very well could not perform the Journey, but staid by the way, the younger went on, and after they (his Company) had gathered some fat Hogs to drive them away, the English unexpectedly came upon them, killed one of the Delawares, and put the rest to Flight, and regained every thing, and my Brother came away without any thing; he told me his Heart did bleed to see Indians and English fight, and he aſsured me he did not fight against the English, but gave Way. Query. Are the Delawares stout Fellows and Warriors? Answer. They are great Cowards. It has been observed by some of them, and one of our Six Nations, the only one among them that I know of, that as soon as any one of the Men was killed by the English, they fled; and if the English had stood their Ground they would have put them to Flight in every Engagement they had with them, but it happened that the English fled from them, when at the same time they (the Delawares) fled with all poſsible Speed also. Query. How did Scarroyady fare among them? Answer. He was in the utmost Danger of being killed by them; whilst he was consulting with the eldest of them in the evening, the rest cried out of doors, Let us kill the Rogue; we will hear of no Mediator, much leſs of a Master – Hold your Tongue, and be gone, or you shall live no longer; we will do what we please.

Query. What is the Reason of their Anger with the English; have they received any Hurt by us, or what is it? They give out for a Reason that from Time to Time the English from their first settling Pennsylvania had murdered above one hundred of their People, without making Satisfaction for them – That the English had cheated them out of a great deal of Land, and cheated them in Commerce continually.

Query. And what did Paxonosa and Others of our Friends say to this? Answer. They told them openly, that the Delawares had murdered more of Pennsylvania People, than Pennsylvania People did of the Delawares, and the Delawares never gave Satisfaction – Instances were brought – That if the English or the People of Pennsylvania had cheated them out of any Lands, it would have been prudent to have asked or demanded Satisfaction first, and not to have used violent Means immediately – That it was altogether the Craftineſs, Power and Bribery of the French that had brought the Delawares over to them – Paxonosa told them so several times – The few Shawonese at Wyomink dont join the Delawares, but stand neuter.

It is thought the Delawares will go out of the Parts – They are making Canoes, and some say they will go by Tiaogon to Ohio in a short time, they are very much divided in Council; they have scarce any Provisions at all.

Query. Perhaps they make Canoes in order to come down the River and join those that will come from Ohio to Shamokin in order to invade Pennsylvania? Answer. I did not hear any thing of this kind, but it may be, as the French are a very crafty People; they might have such Projects; but I heard nothing of it.

Then the Indians were called in, and having taken their Seats, the Belt proceeded to finish what he had to say—

He made a long and tedious Relation using all the Indian Ceremonies and Phrases, of the Arrival of the first English Ship, of the hearty Welcome given the English by the Indians, of their entering into mutual Leagues and Treaties, and living together in the utmost Friendlineſs and Harmony— He likewise mentioned in a very gratefl Manner the constant good Treatment they had received from the English, and acknowledged that whenever the Indians were distreſsed or pinched, the People of this Province were so good as to take Pity of them, and supply them with Cloathes and Provisions— He made honourable Mention of the Abilities and Care of the People concerned from time to time in the Administration of the Government, and of those who composed the Councils, and of the first and present Proprietors, and the strict Charge Mr. Penn gave to those in whose Hands he left his Affairs to be just and kind to the Indians, and repeatedly related the good Advice that this Government had always given the Indians, and he hoped they would continue to be good to them, and not think the worse of the Six Nations or themselves for the Breach of Faith and Murders lately begun to be committed, which grieved the Indians as much as the white People; and concluded his long Speech with ratifying and confirming all the Treaties subsisting between them and this Province, as well on the Part and Behalf of the old Men and Women, as of the young Men, Warriors, and Children now present, who all say, they will live and die with their Brethren, run the same Risques they do, and fight either along with them, or by themselves, as they shall order.

A Belt.

Then holding a String he said,

Brethren,

The Warriors have heard what I have said concerning our Resolutions to live and die with our Brethren, and fight with and for them— They tell you by this String, that it is all good that we have promised for them, and that you may be aſsured they are your hearty Friends, and will fight for you, or be employed in War, or Meſsages, or in any manner you shall think fit— They are one Flesh and Blood with your Warriors.

Brethren,

We advised you, when at Carlisle, immediately to build a Fort at Shamokin; we repeat our Advice, and earnestly entreat you will not delay the doing it— Such Indians as continue true to you will want a Place to come to, and to live in Security against your and their Enemies— And to Shamokin when made strong they will come and bring their Wives and Children with them; and it will strengthen your Interest very much to have a strong House there. Indeed you lose Ground every day till this be done. Pray hasten the Work, the Warriors say they will go along with you, and aſsist you in building a Fort there.

The Council being informed by the Interpreter, that John Shick Calamy wanted to return to Neahhopechon, in order to bring off his Brothers and Family, and was very uneasy least the Enemy Indians when they came to go away should do them a Mischief, they made him a Present of twenty eight Pieces of Eight, and sent a String of Wampum with a Meſsage to Paxonosa the Shawonese Chief by him, to thank him and the other Indians of his Town for the faithful Part they had acted, and to aſsure them that the Governmen would give them a hearty Welcome, if they would come among their Brethren of Pennsylvania.

The Council ordered fifty five Pieces of Eight to be given to Aroas and David, thirty to Aroas, and twenty five to David; with which they were well pleased.

English had killed a good many of their People, and that they had revenged themselves of the People of Pennsylvania, in token, whereof, they gave them that Scalp and the Belt of Wampum; but the Senecas were surprised at the Sight thereof and rejected the Belt, and the Delawares having received a disagreeable Answer did not return to Nescopeckon but went to the Ohio."

At a Council held in the State House at Philadelphia, Thursday, 26th Feb'y, 1756.

PRESENT:

James Hamilton,	Robert Strettle,
Benjamin Shoemaker,	Joseph Turner, } Esqrs.
Richard Peters,	John Mifflin,

Benjamin Franklin,
Joseph Fox, } Esquires.
John Hughes,

The Indians.

Conrad Weiser, Esquire, Interpreter.
John Davison, Assistant.

The Governor went yesterday into Jersey, but before he went he sent for the Indians to dine with him, and acquainted them that he was obliged to go out of Town, but that they might do their business with the Council, who wou'd meet whenever they shall desire it; and the Indians this morning signifying by Mr. Weiser that they wanted to finish what they left unsaid at their last meeting, the Council was called, and the Commissioners being in the Committee Room were desired to be present.

Mr. Weiser delivered in a Paper which he said was settled between the Indians, Him, and Davison, in a Conference, and contained the true Interpretation of what was said by the Belt at the last Council, and the Minute of Tuesday was settled agreeable thereto.

The Secretary acquainted the Council that he had delivered the Governor's Answer to John Shickcalamy, who was well pleased with it. He was uneasy, as the Enemy Indians were on the Departure when he came away, for fear least they might hear of his Journey here and in his Absence do his Family some Mischief, and therefore desired he might return to Wyomink immediately, to take care of his Family, and promised to bring them and his Brothers along with him into the Province among his Brethren.

Mr. Weiser informed the Council that John Shickcalamy had been open with him, and that he had committed his Information to writing, which he gave in, and it was read and order'd to be enter'd as follows:

"February 22d, 1756.

"MEMORANDUM.

"I invited Tachneckdorus and his Wife to Breakfast with me and to a private Interview. Gave him a String of Wampum and said, 'Cousin, I am very glad to see you once more here in Philadelphia. I was very much troubled in my Mind about you, not knowing what was become of you and your Two Brothers. I have therefore sent for you in particular, to know how you fared since the Time that the Delawares began to murder the People of Pennsylvania, and to learn from you what might have been the Reason for their so doing, and where are our Friends, the Six Nation Indians, scattered about Pennsylvania. I desire you, Cousins, to tell me the whole Truth and hide nothing from me. The Friendship that always subsisted between me and your deceased Father and his Children requires Truth and Openness.'

"Tachneckdorus made answer as follows: 'Uncle: I am also very glad to see you. I will honestly tell you everything I know, and answer every Question you may ask me.' 1st Query: 'Where did Aroas find you?' Answer, 'At Wyomink.' 'How came you there?' Answer, 'I and my Brethren and others of our Friends have been deceived by the Delawares after this manner, to wit: when the Delawares from Ohio proclaim'd War against the English they forewarned all the Indians to come away from the English, and desired them to move up the North East Branch of Sasquehannah; a Council was called at Shamokin, and it was agreed to by the Indians there present, chiefly Delawares, to move to Nescopecken for Safety.

"'The Attack of Thomas McKee and others by the Ohio Indians contributed a great deal to that Resolution. I and my Family intended to go to your House, but the Delaware Indians would not let us go, and said the white People would certainly kill us; such and such Language they have made use of on the Frontier that they will kill all the Indians, &ca. I went then to Neshkopeckon with them and took my Family with me. After a while I found that the Neshkopeckon Indians were in the French Interest. I with my Brethren and others then began to be afraid. We would have gladly gone to our Brethren, the English, but we dared not venture, being afraid of the back Inhabitants, and much more afraid of the Delawares, who told us in plain Terms that if we offered to go down the River they wou'd look upon us as Brethren to the English and their Enemies. When the said Delawares began to bring English Scalps we left the Town and went up to Wyomink, and there on the West Side, a few Miles from the River, we gathered to the number of thirty fighting Men of such Indians as would not join the Delawares in murdering the English, among whom were some Six Nations, Shawonese, Chickasaws, and Mohickons; and the

Chief of the Shawonese was Paxonosa, of Wyomink, who is very hearty in the English Interest and spoke very bold to the Delawares. They told him at last if he said one word more they would knock him on the head. A certain chief of the Delawares, ——— by name, used all his Strength of Reason to dissuade the Delawares from listening to the French, but to no purpose—the Delawares silenced him also.' Query, 'How strong are the Delawares now at Neshkopeckon?' Answer, 'Neshkopeckon is deserted upon a Rumour that prevailed among them of your coming up with a large Number of Men to cut them off, and they, the Delawares, fled to Assarockney and higher up, having there a big Hill on one side and the River Sasquehannah on the other side of their present Town, and are nigher to Tiaogon, another Delaware Town, who are Enemies to the English.' 'How strong are they?' Answer, 'Not much above one hundred, tho' some will have them to be two hundred, but they include the Mohiccons, who they hope will join them.' Query, 'Are there any white People amongst them?' Answer, 'There are two or three Deserters from Oswego, who blacken themselves like Indians, and go to fight with them. There are also some Prisoners taken from the English, who they give or sell to one another; I, myself had two given to me, a Boy and a young Woman; I gladly accepted of them in order to save their Lives, and I will by the first Opportunity deliver them up to this Government.' Query, 'Are there none of the Six Nation Indians with the Delawares, who go to fight against the English?' Answer, 'Uncle, I will tell you the Truth, let the most high (Supream Being), hearken to what I say, and chastise me if I hide anything from you, or tell you a Lie; we have been in great Extremity for want of Provisions; the Delawares told us that a large Country was deserted by the English, on the River Delaware, and the Houses full of good Provisions, Flour, Bacon, Pork, Fat Hogs, &ca. My two Brothers went with the Delawares to fetch Provisions from Delaware; the lame one, whom you know very well, could not perform the Journey, but staid by the way; the younger went on, and after they (his Company) had gathered some fat Hogs to drive them away, the English, unexpectedly came upon them, killed one of the Delawares, and put the rest to Flight, and regained everything; and my Brother came away without any thing; he told me his Heart did bleed to see Indians and English fight, and he assured me he did not fight against the English, but gave way.' Query, 'Are the Delawares stout Fellows, and Warriors?' Answer, 'They are great Cowards. It has been observed by some of them, and one of our Six Nations, the only one among them that I know of, that as soon as any one of the Men was killed by the English, they fled; and if the English had stood their Ground, they would have put them to Flight in every Engagement they had with them, but it happened that the English fled from them, when at the same time, they (the Delawares) fled with all possible Speed also.' Query, 'How did Scarroyady fare among them?' Answer, 'He was in the utmost Danger of being killed by them; whilst he was consulting with the eldest of them in the evening, the rest cried out of doors, let us kill the Rogue; we will hear of no Mediator, much less of a Master; hold your Tongue and be gone, or you shall live no longer, we will do what we please.'

"Query, 'What is the Reason of their Anger with the English; have they received any Hurt by us, or what is it?' 'They give out for a Reason, that from Time to Time the English, from their first settling Pennsylvania, had murdered above one hundred of their People without making Satisfaction for them. That the English had cheated them out of a great deal of Land, and cheated them in Commerce continually.'

"Query, 'And what did Paxonosa and Others of our Friends say to this?' Answer, 'They told them openly that the Delawares had murdered more of Pennsylvania People than Pennsylvania People did of the Delawares, and the Delawares never gave Satisfaction. Instances were brought. That if the English or the People of Pennsylvania had cheated them out of any Lands it would have been prudent to have asked or demanded Satisfaction first, and not to have used violent means immediately, That it was altogether the Craftiness, Power, and Bribery of the French that had brought the Delawares over to them; Paxonosa told them so several times. The few Shawonese at Wyomink don't join the Delawares but stand neuter.

"'It is thought the Delawares will go out of the Parts; They are making canoes, and some say they will go by Tiaogon to Ohio in a short time; they are very much divided in Council; they have scarce any Provisions at all.'

"Query, 'Perhaps they make Canoes in order to come down the River and join those that will come from Ohio to Shamokin in order to invade Pennsylvania?' Answer, 'I did not hear any thing of this kind, but it may be, as the French are a very crafty People; they might have such Projects, but I heard nothing of it.'"

Then the Indians were called in, and having taken their Seats the Belt proceeded to finish what he had to say.

He made a long and tedious Relation using all the Indian Ceremonies and Phrases of the Arrival of the first English Ship, of the hearty Welcome given the English by the Indians, of their entering into mutual Leagues and Treaties, and living together in the utmost Friendliness and Harmony. He likewise mentioned in a very grateful Manner the constant good Treatment they had received from the English, and acknowledged that whenever the Indians were distressed or pinched, the People of this Province were so good as to take Pity of them and supply them with cloathes and Provisions. He made honourable Mention of the Abilities and

Care of the People, concerned from time to time in the Administration of the Government, and of those who composed the Councils, and of the first and present Proprietors, and the strict Charge Mr. Penn gave to those in whose Hands he left his Affairs, to be just and kind to the Indians, and repeatedly related the good advice that this Government had always given the Indians, and he hoped they would continue to be good to them and not think the worse of the Six Nations or themselves for the Breach of Faith and Murders lately begun to be committed, which grieved the Indians as much as the white People; and concluded his long Speech with ratifying and confirming all the Treaties subsisting between them and this Province, as well on the Part and Behalf of the Old Men and Women, as of the Young Men, Warriors, and Children now present, who all say they will live and die with their Brethren, run the same Risques they do, and fight either along with them or by themselves, as they shall order.

A Belt.

Then holding a String he said:

"Brethren:

"The warriors have heard what I have said concerning our Resolutions to live and die with our Brethren, and fight with and for them. They tell you by this String that it is all good that we have promised for them, and that you may be assured they are your hearty Friends, and will fight for you, or be employed in War or Messages, or in any manner you shall think fit. They are one Flesh and Blood with your Warriors.

"Brethren:

"We advised you, when at Carlisle, immediately to build a Fort at Shamokin; we repeat our Advice, and earnestly entreat you will not delay the doing it. Such Indians as continue true to you want a Place to come to, and to live in Security against your and their Enemies; And to Shamokin, when made strong, they will come and bring their Wives and Children with them; and it will strengthen your Interest very much to have a strong House there. Indeed, you lose Ground every day till this be done. Pray hasten the work; the Warriors say they will go along with you and assist you in building a Fort there."

The Council being informed by the Interpreter that John Shick Calamy wanted to return to Neskopeckon, in order to bring off his Brothers and Family, and was very uneasy least the Enemy Indians, when they came to go away, should do them a Mischief; they made him a Present of twenty-eight Pieces of Eight, and sent a String of Wampum with a Message to Paxonosa, the Shawonese Chief, by him, to thank him and the other Indians of his Town for the faithful Part they had acted, and to assure them that the Government would give them a hearty Welcome if they would come among their Brethren of Pennsylvania.

The Council ordered fifty-five Pieces of Eight to be given to Aroas and David, thirty to Aroas and twenty-five to David, with which they were well pleased.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Wednesday the 3d March, 1756.

PRESENT:

The Honourable **ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS**, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell,	William Logan,	Esquires.
Richard Peters,	Lynford Lardner,	
John Mifflin,	Thomas Cadwalader,	

The Minutes of the two last preceding Councils were read and approved.

The Indians made their Speeches, which were immediately laid before the House, and are as follow:

[An out in the Book here.]

Two Members from the House waited on the Governor with a verbal Message, desiring to know if the Governor had come to any Result upon the Bill for regulating the Indian Trade, and the Bill for dispersing the French Neutrals; to which the Governor made Answer, that he did not think the Indian Trade Bill would be of any Service at this time, but if the House were of a different opinion, he would take it into Consideration, and as to the other Bill, it was before the Council, and thereupon the Bill was read a second Time, and no objection being made thereto, it was returned to the House with the Governor's assent.

Several Petitions were read from the back Inhabitants, complaining that their Crops were lost or destroyed by the Indians, and praying that a Stop might be put to the Exportation of Provisions, least the Province should not have sufficient for its own Consumption, and the following Message sent to the Assembly thereupon:

"Gentlemen:

"The Secretary will lay before you Petitions from a Number of the Inhabitants of this and other Counties, setting forth that the last Year's Crop of Grain was not so plentiful as usual; That great Quantities had been destroyed by the Indians, and that the Back Inhabitants being drove from their Plantations, the Publick would be deprived of the Benefit of the Grain they had put into the Ground. They therefore pray that a Stop may be put to the Exportation of Provisions, in order to prevent a Scarcity, which they are apprehensive there will be, if such a Measure be not taken.

"As you come from the different Parts of the Province, you are

readiness to serve you, whenever you call upon us; and you know very well, that whatever warriors promise is sacred.

Brethren,

I return you thanks for your sincere professions of friendship.

And so parted.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE

Copy[1]

At a meeting of the Six Nations, *February 26th, 1756.*

Brother Warraghiyagey,

It was yesterday agreed upon by us, that our eldest brother, the Mohawk, should take upon him, to settle that unhappy affair, between the Delawares and our brethren the English; but, on more mature deliberation, having the thing so much at heart, we have now, unanimously agreed, that the several delegates, from the six nations, should use their utmost endeavours to accommodate that difference; and, depend upon it, we shall lose no time, for we shall immediately dispatch a messenger to them by the Skaniadaradighronos and Oneidas, and desire them, to meet us at Otsineange, where the council is to be held.

A belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We have, agreeable to your repeated desire, kept a good look out, and daily watch the motions of the French; we must acquaint you, that they have lately sent a message to our brethren, the Cayougas, to let them know their resolution, of attacking Oswego, and desiring their opinion upon it: hereupon, three of their sachems, and seven of their young men, are gone to Niagara, with a design to forbid the French attacking Oswego, of any

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[1] Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 52.

Indians, they may see, joining them; we daily expect their return, when you shall immediately hear what they have done.

A belt.

Brethren of the six nations,

I greatly approve of the alteration you have made, in the method of accommodating that unhappy breach between the Delawares and your brethren the English, as it must certainly have greater weight now, as it is the act of the whole body, and the more likely to succeed; I look upon this, as a very considerable proof of the unanimity and zeal, that you have expressed at this present meeting.

A belt.

Brethren,

I must repeat to you, that I am extremely pleased at, and much obliged to you for the kind intelligence, you have given me, of the designs of the French attacking Oswego, and desire you will continue that vigilance, and let me have every information you can, relative to the proceedings and motions of the French; as nothing can contribute more to the defeating all their designs, than our having constant and good intelligence. I wish your brethren of Cayouga, may succeed in their intentions, of indeavouring to prevent any Indians, they may see, joining the French; but as they can do nothing without their assistance, I doubt of their success; however, it is good to try what can be done in that case; but be that as it will, we do not fear what the French can do, neither should you, after the strong and many assurances, we have given you, of his Majesty's protection and friendship.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are now ready to return home, as all affairs, for which we came here, are settled to our satisfaction, and we hope to yours; we shall finish, with assuring you, we will strictly act up to every thing agreed upon at this meeting, and hope you will do the same.

So ended the congress.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE[1]

Copy[2]

February 27. 1756.

At a meeting of the Onondagas.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We, the Onondagas, very readily embrace this opportunity offered us, of having a fort built for the protection of our castle; and upon our return home, shall chuse a proper situation for it; as soon as the season of the year will permit, we beg you will not delay to send proper workmen to build it. As we have for some time past had an acquaintance with lieut. Mills, we should be glad to have him as our officer. And as William Printup understands the Indian language well, it would be agreeable to us to have him reside with us, as a smith, and at the same time to serve as an interpreter between the officer and us.

Brethren,

I shall acquaint general Shirley with your desire, and make no doubt he will comply with it. The fort shall be built with all possible expedition; and whatever officer is posted in it, will no doubt have particular orders, to be careful of your safety, and to treat you with all the marks of affection and friendship.

Ended.

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[1] At Fort Johnson.

[2] Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart, and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 55.

of Character as a Gentleman, but will mention any thing to others that may have as good an Effect as if to him, as I remain your Scincere friend

and very humble Servant

G CLINTON

S^R^ WILL^M^ JOHNSON Bart.

ADDRESSED:

To
S^r^ William Johnson Bart.

INDORSED:

London Hill Street 27 Feb^y^.
1756 —

Gov^r^. Clintons Letter

Forwarded By Sir Your Huble Servant[1]
A. KENNEDY

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE[2]

Copy[3]

February 27. 1756.

At a meeting of the Senecas.

Takeaghsado, speaker.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

Our brother, the governor of New York, was so good the last year, as to promise us a smith to mend our arms and tools, and that he should reside among us until the corn was a foot high; but he labouring under the misfortune of a sore leg, was obliged to leave us some time sooner. We acknowledge, you sent us a smith last summer, with whom we are well pleased, and beg you will continue him with us till the corn is a foot high; then he may come down for the necessaries he may have occasion for, and then we hope, he will soon return to us.

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[1] This note and the letter are in the same handwriting.

[2] At Fort Johnson.

[3] Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours* . . ., p. 56.

Brethren,

I was present when the governor of New York last year, promised to send you a smith, which he accordingly did, and one agreeable to you; if he did not stay there the time appointed the governor was not culpable, as he could not be supposed to know any thing of his coming away. I am very glad, you are pleased with the smith I sent you last year; and, as you are desirous he should remain there, until your corn is such a length, I very readily agree to it, and shall order him accordingly, to stay that time.

Ended.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We, the warriors of this castle, look on ourselves as under obligation, always to be ready at a call, upon any emergency; and therefore, as we cannot at present fall upon any means of retrieving our loss, we look to you for support: our fences have also suffered much, in our absence; we beg your assistance in repairing them.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

As soon as you informed us, that you were ready for war, we gave you a sufficient proof of our regard for you, in our readiness to attend you; we have also, at your request, stopp'd all our warriors, for some years past, from making any excursions against the Flatheads,[1] and turned our weapons against our common enemy, agreeable to your desire: in short, we hope we have, upon all occasions, given you reason to think, that we have a sincere regard for you.

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[1] "Who live several hundred miles from the six nations, and with whom they have been at war time immemorial." [Ed's note.]

Brother Warraghiyagey,

Our spirits are now pretty much sunk, at the loss of so many of our principal sachems and warriors, who fell at Lake George; we look to you, to raise them up agreeable to our customs.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

At the request of the upper nations, without our consent, the selling of strong liquor is entirely forbid; we have no design to contradict any thing they do, but only request, that we may have leave to procure a little for our comfort.

Three strings of wampum.

Brethren,

It gives me great concern, with you, that the person who had the care of your fort and castle, had, in your absence, neglected the charge I gave him of both; but as he was your own choice, there is the less to be said; however, I shall reprimand him for it, severely. As I am fully convinced of your loyalty to his Majesty, and readiness at all times to follow my direction, you shall not want any assistance in my power, to supply your wants, and to contribute to your happiness; as a proof of which, I shall now order you three hundred skipples of corn, for your support; and should that fall short, let me know it, and you shall have a further supply, until you are able to raise your own grain. I shall also give orders, that your fences be immediately repaired; and as for your warriors, I shall send you a present by the first opportunity, worthy the singular services you have done your country, with me last campaign.

Three strings of wampum.

Brethren,

As I have nothing more at heart, than the welfare and happiness of the people of your castle, who have always been our steady friends, I am sensibly affected, and sincerely sympathize with you, upon the great loss you have sustained, by the death of two of your principal sachems, and likewise some of your young men at Lake George; we should comfort ourselves with the thoughts, that those friends of ours, who dropped that day, died bravely in their country's cause, and that their memory will be honoured to the end of time.

As it is necessary for us to supply as well, and as soon as we can, the place of the two great sachems lost that day, I hope you have considered of proper persons for that important trust; if you have, I should be glad you would produce them, that I may give them the proper marks of distinction, and enter their names among the rest of the sachems.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We, the sachems and warriors of the Canajoharee-castle, are much obliged to you, for your friendly and good opinion of us; we assure you, we shall daily endeavour to merit it more and more, by convincing proofs of our loyalty on any occasion.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We, the sachems and warriors, return you our most hearty thanks, for your kind and well-timed supply of corn, and promise of a further supply, if necessary; the repairing of our fences, will be likewise of the greatest service to us, as without them, we can raise no grain for the ensuing year. This care of us, in our distress, adds greatly to the many obligations we already lie under, and can never be forgot.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We, the warriors of Canajoharee, are extremely pleased with the favourable opinion you have of our behaviour in the late action at Lake George, which alone animates us much, and greatly elevates our minds, notwithstanding they were so much depress'd: we are extremely obligated to you, for the present you intended us, and shall receive it with the greatest gratitude.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We take your anxiety, for supplying the place of the two great sachems lost, who chiefly managed our affairs, as a singular mark of your regard for our welfare: we present you one of our most capable men to succeed our deceased brother, Tarraghioris, of the tribe of the Turtle, and hope, our choice may meet your approbation. We have not as yet fixed upon one to succeed the great Hendrick; when we do, we shall immediately acquaint you.

Three strings of wampum.

Brethren,

As a proof of my regard for your choice, I now in the presence of your whole castle, invest him with all the powers of a sachem, and put on him those marks of distinction, which I wish him long life to wear.

Ended.

The Oghquagoe Indians, before they parted, made the following Speech.

Adams, speaker.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are now ready to return, having heard all you had to say; which, we assure you, has made so deep an impression on our minds as not to be forgot. We would only beg leave to desire one favour of you, before we go; that is to have a trading-house built in our country, and a constant supply of goods; which would not only add greatly to our happiness, but would also increase our numbers, as it would draw Indians from all parts within 100 miles of us, to settle among us; if you will gratify us in this, you will greatly add to the many favours already received.

A belt.

Brethren of Oghquagoe,

I have so good an opinion, and so many convincing proofs, of your loyalty to the great King your Father, and affection to your brethren the English, that I have not the least reason to doubt your sincerity, nor the least objection to building you a trading-house, as soon as that unhappy affair is settled, between

the Indians of the lower settlements on your river and your brethren the English, which I hope will be very soon.

They returned their hearty thanks, and so parted.

the Indians of the lower settlements on your river and your brethren the English, which I hope will be very soon.

They returned their hearty thanks, and so parted.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE[1]

Copy[2]

February 27. 1756.

At a private meeting of the Sachems and warriors
of the Canajoharee-castle.

Abraham, the great Hendrick's brother, speaker.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We, the sachems and warriors of Canajoharee, take this opportunity, to say something to you, relative to our own affairs; as your great trouble is now mostly over.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

When first we were alarmed with these public commotions, you was so kind, at our request, to promise us a fort for the protection of our castle. We acknowledge you have punctually performed your promise, so that, at the time when the confederacy was coming down last summer, it was completely finished. Mr. Fry, on hearing of our application for men to garrison it, applied to you on behalf his son, that he might be the commander thereof; you answered, that you would consult the Indians, whether he was agreeable or no, which you did. In answer to which, we declared, he was agreeable to us, and, that it would be more acceptable to have those, with whom we were acquainted, than strangers.

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[1] At Fort Johnson.

[2] Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . . ,* p. 57–62.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We were mistaken in our choice; for alto' he made us the fairest promises, that he would, during our absence, take care of our lands and the crops then in the field, he was altogether deficient in the performance, by which neglect, we entirely lost our crops! In this melancholy situation, we make our application to you, assuring you, that without your assistance, in this article, we must greatly suffer.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE[1]

Copy[2]

Fort Johnson, February 29, 1756.

At a meeting of the Aughquagey's, Tuscaroras, Skaniadaradighronos, Chughnuts, Mahickanders and Shawanese, Thomas their Speaker Stood up and went through the ceremony of condolance for the loss of my Sister and brother-in-law,[3] and then proceeded as follows:

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We will now open our hearts to you, and throw off the burthen which lays so heavy upon us; it grieved us much to hear it was suggested, that all the nations living upon the banks of Susquehanna, even as far as Aughquagey had joined the French. We assure you it is a false report, and we appeal to you, brother, whether we have not (since your acquaintance with us) always

of Character as a Gentleman, but will mention any thing to others that may have as good an Effect as if to him, as I remain your Scincere friend

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[1] At Fort Johnson.

[2] Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .,* p. 15–16.

[3] Captain Matthew Ferrall, Johnson's sister's husband, killed in the battle at Lake George, September 8, 1755. *See* Johnson's letter in *London Gazette*, 28 October, 1755; and *The Calendar of Sir William Johnson Manuscripts*, p. 48.

and very humble Servant

G CLINTON

S^{R} WILL^{M} JOHNSON Bart.

ADDRESSED:

To
S^{r} William Johnson Bart.

INDORSED:

London Hill Street 27 Feb^{y}.
1756 —

Gov^{r}. Clintons Letter

Forwarded By Sir Your Humble Servant[1]

A. KENNEDY

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE[2]

Copy[3]

February 27. 1756.

At a meeting of the Senecas.

Takeaghsado, speaker.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

Our brother, the governor of New York, was so good the last year, as to promise us a smith to mend our arms and tools, and that he should reside among us until the corn was a foot high; but he labouring under the misfortune of a sore leg, was obliged to leave us some time sooner. We acknowledge, you sent us a smith last summer, with whom we are well pleased, and beg you will continue him with us till the corn is a foot high; then he may come down for the necessaries he may have occasion for, and then we hope, he will soon return to us.

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Brethren,

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Ended.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We, the warriors of this castle, look on ourselves as under obligation, always to be ready at a call, upon any emergency; and therefore, as we cannot at present fall upon any means of retrieving our loss, we look to you for support: our fences have also suffered much, in our absence; we beg your assistance in repairing them.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

As soon as you informed us, that you were ready for war, we gave you a sufficient proof of our regard for you, in our readiness to attend you; we have also, at your request, stopp'd all our warriors, for some years past, from making any excursions against the Flatheads,[1] and turned our weapons against our common enemy, agreeable to your desire: in short, we hope we have, upon all occasions, given you reason to think, that we have a sincere regard for you.

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[1] "Who live several hundred miles from the six nations, and with whom they have been at war time immemorial." [Ed's note.]

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Brother Warraghiyagey,

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Three strings of wampum.

Brethren,

It gives me great concern, with you, that the person who had the care of your fort and castle, had, in your absence, neglected the charge I gave him of both; but as he was your own choice, there is the less to be said; however, I shall reprimand him for it, severely. As I am fully convinced of your loyalty to his Majesty, and readiness at all times to follow my direction, you shall not want any assistance in my power, to supply your wants, and to contribute to your happiness; as a proof of which, I shall now order you three hundred skipples of corn, for your support; and should that fall short, let me know it, and you shall have a further supply, until you are able to raise your own grain. I shall also give orders, that your fences be immediately repaired; and as for your warriors, I shall send you a present by the first opportunity, worthy the singular services you have done your country, with me last campaign.

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Brethren,

As I have nothing more at heart, than the welfare and happiness of the people of your castle, who have always been our steady friends, I am sensibly affected, and sincerely sympathize with you, upon the great loss you have sustained, by the death of two of your principal sachems, and likewise some of your young men at Lake George; we should comfort ourselves with the thoughts, that those friends of ours, who dropped that day, died bravely in their country's cause, and that their memory will be honoured to the end of time.

As it is necessary for us to supply as well, and as soon as we can, the place of the two great sachems lost that day, I hope you have considered of proper persons for that important trust; if you have, I should be glad you would produce them, that I may give them the proper marks of distinction, and enter their names among the rest of the sachems.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We, the sachems and warriors of the Canajoharee-castle, are much obliged to you, for your friendly and good opinion of us; we assure you, we shall daily endeavour to merit it more and more, by convincing proofs of our loyalty on any occasion.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We, the sachems and warriors, return you our most hearty thanks, for your kind and well-timed supply of corn, and promise of a further supply, if necessary; the repairing of our fences, will be likewise of the greatest service to us, as without them, we can raise no grain for the ensuing year. This care of us, in our distress, adds greatly to the many obligations we already lie under, and can never be forgot.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We, the warriors of Canajoharee, are extremely pleased with the favourable opinion you have of our behaviour in the late action at Lake George, which alone animates us much, and greatly elevates our minds, notwithstanding they were so much depress'd: we are extremely obligated to you, for the present you intended us, and shall receive it with the greatest gratitude.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We take your anxiety, for supplying the place of the two great sachems lost, who chiefly managed our affairs, as a singular mark of your regard for our welfare: we present you one of our most capable men to succeed our deceased brother, Tarraghioris, of the tribe of the Turtle, and hope, our choice may meet your approbation. We have not as yet fixed upon one to succeed the great Hendrick; when we do, we shall immediately acquaint you.

Three strings of wampum.

Brethren,

As a proof of my regard for your choice, I now in the presence of your whole castle, invest him with all the powers of a sachem, and put on him those marks of distinction, which I wish him long life to wear.

Ended.

The Oghquagoe Indians, before they parted, made the following Speech.

Adams, speaker.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We are now ready to return, having heard all you had to say; which, we assure you, has made so deep an impression on our minds as not to be forgot. We would only beg leave to desire one favour of you, before we go; that is to have a trading-house built in our country, and a constant supply of goods; which would not only add greatly to our happiness, but would also increase our numbers, as it would draw Indians from all parts within 100 miles of us, to settle among us; if you will gratify us in this, you will greatly add to the many favours already received.

A belt.

Brethren of Oghquagoe,

I have so good an opinion, and so many convincing proofs, of your loyalty to the great King your Father, and affection to your brethren the English, that I have not the least reason to doubt your sincerity, nor the least objection to building you a trading-house, as soon as that unhappy affair is settled, between

the Indians of the lower settlements on your river and your brethren the English, which I hope will be very soon.

They returned their hearty thanks, and so parted.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE[1]

Copy[2]

February 27. 1756.

At a private meeting of the Sachems and warriors of the Canajoharee-castle.

Abraham, the great Hendrick's brother, speaker.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We, the sachems and warriors of Canajoharee, take this opportunity, to say something to you, relative to our own affairs; as your great trouble is now mostly over.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

When first we were alarmed with these public commotions, you was so kind, at our request, to promise us a fort for the protection of our castle. We acknowledge you have punctually performed your promise, so that, at the time when the confederacy was coming down last summer, it was completely finished. Mr. Fry, on hearing of our application for men to garrison it, applied to you on behalf his son, that he might be the commander thereof; you answered, that you would consult the Indians, whether he was agreeable or no, which you did. In answer to which, we declared, he was agreeable to us, and, that it would be more acceptable to have those, with whom we were acquainted, than strangers.

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[1] At Fort Johnson.

[2] Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours* . . . , p. 57–62.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We were mistaken in our choice; for alto' he made us the fairest promises, that he would, during our absence, take care of our lands and the crops then in the field, he was altogether deficient in the performance, by which neglect, we entirely lost our crops! In this melancholy situation, we make our application to you, assuring you, that without your assistance, in this article, we must greatly suffer.

AN INDIAN CONFERENCE[1]

Copy[2]

Fort Johnson, February 29, 1756.

At a meeting of the Aughquagey's, Tuscaroras, Skaniadaradighronos, Chughnuts, Mahickanders and Shawanese, Thomas their Speaker Stood up and went through the ceremony of condolance for the loss of my Sister and brother-in-law,[3] and then proceeded as follows:

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We will now open our hearts to you, and throw off the burthen which lays so heavy upon us; it grieved us much to hear it was suggested, that all the nations living upon the banks of Susquehanna, even as far as Aughquagey had joined the French. We assure you it is a false report, and we appeal to you, brother, whether we have not (since your acquaintance with us) always

proved true brethren to the English, and strictly adhered to the agreements made so long ago between them and our fore-fathers; and depend upon it we ever shall, notwithstanding all the temptations of the French. What we now say comes not from our lips only, but from the very bottom of our hearts.

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[1] At Fort Johnson.

[2] Printed in *An Account of Conferences held, and Treaties made, Between Major-General Sir William Johnson, Bart. and the chief Sachems and Warriours . . .*, p. 15–16.

[3] Captain Matthew Ferrall, Johnson's sister's husband, killed in the battle at Lake George, September 8, 1755. *See* Johnson's letter in *London Gazette*, 28 October, 1755; and *The Calendar of Sir William Johnson Manuscripts*, p. 48.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We speak now in behalf of the Oneidas, Tuscaroras, Skaniadaradighronos and Chugnuts; and we may say we speak also in behalf of the Shawanese, who are now upon their way to Chugnut, where they are to settle and live under our protection; also the Delaware-indians, who live upon the east branch of that river near the head of it, have given us the strongest assurances, that they will live and die with us, and in consequence of that will keep up the same friendship and alliance with the English, which now subsists between us and them; and this belt we hereby deliver to you as a testimony thereof.

Gave the belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey,

We beg leave to lay our immediate danger and distress before you; we are now entirely exposed to the merciless power of the French and their Indians, our and your common enemy; their hatchet is ready to fall upon our heads, their Indians who live not far from us, threaten us for our attachment to you, for they call and look upon us as English, as we truly are. Now, brother, our earnest request is, that you would build us a small place of defence, wherein our old men, women, and children may have shelter in this time of danger; and that you would also supply us with arms, ammunition, &c. wherewith to defend ourselves from any attempts the enemy may make upon us.

Gave a belt.

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Gave a belt.

former Indians I fear dare not and the Missasagas will not meet at Oswego, I suspect the intended meeting of the Western Indians there will not take effect

It happens very unluckily that by our ships from England not arriving in the usual time this Spring, a sufficient quantity of Indian Goods, and things proper for Presents are not to be purchased I have sent to New York, Philadelphia, and Boston for several things, but can not get them

Sir Charles Hardy has consented I shall give some of the arms 600 lb of Powder, and Lead in his name out of His Majestys present, sent by him to the 6 Nations. I heartily wish I had the rest of it, I wrote him there would be scarce a more favorable opportunity of giving that Present than at this Meeting

I would humbly propose to your Lordships that if His Majesty is pleased to continue me in the superintendancy of Indian affairs that I may be allowed to order such assortments of Indian Goods from England as are proper for the Service I am convinced this will be a saving method to the Crown, and that the Indians will be much better supplied — The Presents which Governors have brought from England have been ill sorted, many articles bad in their kind, and some useless, particularly that essential article of arms

On my return from Onnondaga, I shall transmitt your Lordships Copy of my Proceedings there and give you such further intelligence as may occur

I am
My Lords
most respectfully yr
Lordships
most obedient most
humble Servant
Wm JOHNSON

P S

Forts are now building in the Senecas country, at Onnondaga, Oneida, & Schohare The Cayuga Indians have not yet applied The Fort for the Oghguagees is upon the acctt of the disturbances to the Southward deferred till the meeting at Onondaga is over.

The words within brackets in the preceding letter, are from the copy in *New-York Colonial Manuscripts.* LXXXII. — ED.

Journal of Sir William Johnson's Indian Transactions. March — May, 1756.

[New-York Papers, Ll., No. 42.]

March the 5th 1756

As the Bunt and several of the Onnondaga Nation returned from Albany they made the following short speech

Canadock Speaker

William Printup Interpreter

Brother Warraghiyagey

As you were so good the other day to promise we should have a Fort in our Country we were thankful to you for it, since that time we have considered the benefit it may be to us, Wherefor we now ernestly request you would build such a one for us as may last many years, if we could have such a Fort as the Mohawks have it would give us great pleasure

We beg leave to repeat our desire of having our brother Otawandanawa (Lieut Mills) as officer there & Sagudderiaghta alias William Printup a smith & Interpreter between us and the officer. We also beg you would order some people to come up and plow our Corn Lands which are grown so stiff that our Women can scarce enter them with their Hoes, this is all we have at present to say Gave a Belt of Wampum

Bretheren of Onnondaga

It is out of pure regard for your safety and Welfare Forts are offered to you, well knowing the great security they will be to you all against any design of your and our treacherous enemy. Wherefore as you desire a good strong & durable Fort you shall be indulged therein. As to the Officer who is to command there, General Shirley has it in his power to gratifie you therein, and I doubt not but he will as I shall in sending William Printup to serve you as smith & interpreter, I will write a letter by you to the Germans, who live nearest to you, to go up with some Plows to break up your stiff Ground and hope that will be the means of its yielding you good crops A Belt

Bretheren

I have one thing to request of you, which is that you immediately send one of your Nation called Canadacta with a joint invitation to the Mississagaes to meet at Oswego as soon as they can conveniently he is the fittest man I know to undertake it, as he speaks their language and is an honest sensible man, you may assure him of being well rewarded A Belt

Brother Warraghiyagey

We agree to your desire and much approve of your choice, as the man you mention really deserves the good opinion you have of him. We will as soon as we get home prepare him for the journey and send him with a joint message and invitation A Belt.

I returned them thanks & gave them cash to purchase provisions on their way home and then they parted

March 7th 1756

At a Meeting of the Seneca Sachems at their return from Albany Tagighsady, the greatest Sachem of their Nation, rose up and spoke

Brother Warraghiyagey

We hope you will as soon as the Season admits of it, send good men to build the Fort for us, for we are in a very dangerous situation at present, having such bad neighbours as the French near us A Belt.

Bretheren of the Senecas

You may depend upon my sending men to build a Fort for your protection as soon as possible. I must desire that you Bretheren who live nearest to the Twightwees, and the Ottawawaes will send Kindarunta of Ganuskago[1] my great friend to invite them, and as many other Nations as incline to speak with us, to the meeting which is to be held at Oswego, and that you join in the invitation as it will have more weight, and should we succeed in our designs, it will be for our mutual Interest A Belt.

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[1] See note, *supra*, p. 57.—Ed.

Brother Warraghiyagey

We return you thanks for the assurance you give us of sending up workmen to build a Fort for our Protection

Agreeable to your desire we will as soon as we get home send the man you mention with your desire of seeing as many of them as possible and we will also send to them in our own name, and doubt not but they will come unless some unforeseen turn of affairs should happen A Belt

I returned them thanks for their compliance with my request gave them money to purchase Provisions by the road and so parted.

March 8.

Fitted out a Party of five Indians to harrass the Settlements about Crown Point

A Chenundady Indian Cheif

March 9

Fitted out three more, Captain Dick the Chief, whom I ordered to go towards St Johns below Lake Champlain

March 10

Fitted out an other Party of five Mohawks and three White men, M^r^ Henry Marr cheif of the Whites, Petrus Daniels son cheif of the Indians, they were to go to Crown Point or further in case they could not succeed there. I had a letter from Marr dated at Fort William Henry the 14 Inst. they arrived safe there and were to sett off for Crown Point the next day

March 15th 1756.

An Express sent General Johnson by the Oneidas with a large Belt of Black Wampum assuring him some French & 400 of their Indians were seen marching towards their country they desired his immediate assistance or they must die.

The General received the News at 10 oclock at night at Albany and acquainted Coll Bourton[1] with it gave him the letter which he received from the Interpreter who took it from the Indian He then sett out for the German Flatts where he arrived the second day, the next day above 1000 of the militia whom he had ordered to follow arrived and some few Indians. The

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[1] Major General RALPH BURTON, was Lieutenant Colonel of the 48th Regiment of Foot, 14th October, 1754, and accompanied Braddock to the Monongahela, where he was wounded. He was allowed the rank of Colonel in America, on 10th January, 1758, in which year he commanded the 3d Brigade in the expedition against Louisburgh. In 1759, he and his regiment accompanied General Wolfe to Quebec, and he was again wounded in the operations before that city, notwithstanding which, however, he was at his post in the memorable battle on the plains of Abraham, in command of the reserve. When Wolfe received his death wound, the last order he issued was to Colonel Burton, "to cut off the retreat of the fugitives;" "then turning on his side he expired." *Knox Campaigns*, II., 79. After the surrender of Quebec, Colonel Burton was appointed Lieutenant-Governor of the city and its dependencies, and in 1760, being advanced to the rank of Brigadier, accompanied General Murray in his operations for the reduction of the district of Montreal. In this campaign he commanded the first, or right Brigade. On the 10th December, of that year, he was appointed Colonel of the 95th, then serving in America, and on the 10th July, 1762, was promoted to the rank of Major-General in the army. He became Colonel of the 3d Buffs, on the 22d November, 1764, and, as his name is not to be found in the Army list of 1869, it is presumed that he died in 1768. — ED.

General sent an express immediately to the Oneidas several of whom were then at the Carrying place to let them know he was so near and ready to march instantly to their assistance or to that of any of our Bretheren if they thought it necessary, their answer was that several scouts they had sent out to discover the enemies motions were returned without seeing the enemy, that they beleive they had altered their scheme or course also let them know they were extreemly obliged to him for this convincing proof of his regard for them & that they never would forget it

General Johnson then sent them the following Message.

Bretheren of Oneida

I must advise you to keep some of your young men always towards the Borders of the French Country to watch their motions and if at any time you find they are marching towards your Country, let me know it immediately and I shall be with you before they can, for I am light and my men ready always in a moment to follow me

Bretheren

Be not dismayed at the sight or approach of five or six hundred of the enemy when you now see what a number I can bring to you in so short a time and at so bad a season of the year and were it necessary I would bring four times as many all of my own Regiment

A Belt.

March 23^{d} 1756

At a meeting of the Mohawks at Fort Johnson

Sir William Johnson communicated to them the contents of a letter he had received from Coll Hardenburgh and several other Gent^{n} of Kingston in Ulster County dated March 10, which was that a party of English had entered a Wigwam where about 14 River Indians men Women and children were, and that upon strong suspicion of their being concerned in the murder of some of their neighbours a few days before would make them Prisoners but the Indians resisting the Party killed several of them and some made their escape, further that those Gentlemen acquainted me that there were about 40 or 50 of the same Nation of Indians now in Kingston come there for Protection and were supported by the People of that Town that they would be glad to know what to do with them. I desired their advice and opinion thereon which the promised they would give as soon as they got home and consulted together

Instructions to M^{r} Albert Van Slike going to the six Nations

You are to proceed immediately to the Castle of the Cayougas and tell them you are come according to their request with goods which you are to supply them with as reasonably as you can, so that they may have no cause of complaint

You are to make the strictest inquiry possible when there what News is amongst them and send me the same by express if of any moment

You are to encourage them to keep the road open to Oswego that His Majestys Troops and Provisions may pass & repass unmolested. If any attempts should be made by the enemy to stop said communication or any Mischeif done at Oswego or any where thereabouts you are to tell them in my name that they must rise up & revenge it, otherwise they will break their engagements entered into at the last Treaty held at my house, and if you can spare time to take a Scout with a number of them on such occasions I will pay you for the same eight shillings pr day, but you must keep an exact account of the number of days you may be on said service so as you may justly swear to it

You are also to employ some trusty Indian of that Nation to go as a spy to Cadaracqui & Swegatchie to see what the French and their Indians are about for which you are to pay them and I will make you an allowance for the same

Lastly You are to send Intelligence of any designs you find the French may have against Oswego immediately to the commanding officer there also to me and to endeavour to prevail on said Nation to have a Fort in their Country setting forth the advantage it will be to them

You may for the good of the Service advance £10 to such Sachems or others as you find deserving and I will repay you

Given under my hand at Fort Johnson this 23d day of March 1756.

Wm Johnson

To Mr Albert Vanslike

Instructions for Myndert Wemp in the Senecas Country

As the Senecas have requested of me that you should stay there till their corn is a foot high in order to keep their Arms & Working Utensils in Repair

You are therefore hereby directed to remain there untill the latter end of May or beginning of June and do all the work for them they want

You are to send me by express any News of Moment you may hear there and also to the commanding officer at Oswego if it is necessary for him to know it or that it concerns the safety of that Garrison in any way

If the Senecas have not sent the Indian whom I desired to call the Twightees and others to Oswego before this reaches you, in that case you are to tell them it is my desire that they send either him or any other proper person immediately as a delay in that case will be attended with many ill consequences, & be a great disappointment and the blame must lye upon them

You are to encourage the Indians of that Nation all in your power to join our Troops at Oswego this spring, when sent for and tell them I expect they will not fail, having engaged they would be ready when called upon

You are to suffer no French Emissarys to come among them while you are there as it must greatly hurt His Majestys Interest with that Nation to have such come among them

You may besides what I have already allowed advance the sum of Ten pounds to such as you find deserving and in Want

As I hear there is a great scarcity of Indian Corn there, you may tell them I propose sending two Battoes loaded with Corn for their releif as soon as possible, and I hope that will be the means of keeping them at Home and in readiness to join His Majestys Forces at Oswego when called upon

Given under my hand at Fort Johnson this 26 day of March 1756.

Wm Johnson

To
Mr Myndert Wemp
of the Senecas Country

Fort Johnson March 26 1756.

At a meeting of the Mohawks both Sachems & Warriors

Abraham spoke as follows

Brother Warraghiyagey

You were so good the other day to let us know what had happened to some of our people lately at Goshen. We are thankful to you for acquainting us of it as well as of a number of them being now amongst the Inhabitants of Kingston. We have according to your desire taken this affair into our serious consideration, and come to this resolution which if you approve of we are determined immediately to put into execution viz: to go and bring those Indians living or left about that part of the Country to settle among us at the Mohawks, and we hope you will assist us in bringing them up all in your Power, also help to support and cloath them untill they are able to raise their own provision. As we are unacquainted with their language and strangers in that part of the Country, we should be glad you would send some proper person with us as Interpreter, then we will begin the journey as soon as you please A Belt

Bretheren of the Mohawks

I very much approve the Resolution you have entered into relating to the River Indians. I will assist you in bringing them and their Familys up & untill they are able to provide for themselves I shall take care to supply them with the necessarys of Life, I shall order Jacobus Clement the Interpreter who understands their language to attend you and give him Instructions on that head A Belt.

Instructions to Mr Jacobus Clement

You are to provide a passage and Provisions for these Mohawk Chiefs & accompany them to Kingston in Ulster County. When there you are to see that they be well supplied with Provisions and but very little liquor, least they get intoxicated & by that means oversett the good ends they have in view. You are to Act as interpreter between them and the River Indians & assist them all in your power. Should they be able to prevail on the River Indians to come along with them, in that case you are to provide them with what Provisions you find necessary to support them along the Road hither using good economy & discretion. You are to keep a regular account of the expence so as it may be sworn to when delivered

Given under my hand at Fort Johnson the 8th day of April 1756.

To Jac. Clement Interptr Wm JOHNSON

Fort Johnson 21 April 1756

A Deputation from the Onnondagas of two Sachems & 14 Warriors. A M

Peter Wraxall Secr^{y}
Arent Stevens Interp^{tr}

Tiogwanta Speaker

Brother Warraghiyagey

We are very sorry for your late loss at the carrying place[1] & as we doubt not you are oppressed with greif on this occasion we do with this Belt of Wampum wipe away the Tears from your eyes and clear your throat that you may speak to us with ease and Freedom, and we clean away the blood that hath been spilt, so that we may confer together with our usual confidence and satisfaction Gave a large Belt of Black Wampum

Brother Warraghiyagey

At our late public meeting you put the five Nations in mind that the Delawares and Shawanese Indians were under their Government & direction & you enjoined us to send to them to express our disapprobation & Resentment for the bloody Hostilities which they had and were daily committing against our Bretheren the English in those parts and that we should order them to cease from their violences & live in that friendship and Harmony with our Bretheren the English as they were wont to do, and that they should turn the edge of their Hatchett along with you and us, against our common enemies the French and their Indians

We have been to them and delivered what you gave us in charge and we have succeeded by convincing them that they had acted very foolishly and unjustifiably, and they have promised & agreed to join their arms with us in conjunction with you against our common enemys but at the same time they ernestly desire that they may see and talk with you at Onnondaga the Fire Place of the five Nations and that if you will meet them there it will convince them of your desire to live with them in Harmony & Friendship and that you intend to behave to them as Friends & Allies, and the five Nations join with them in this request as they propose to have a very great meeting there and as the present times are so troublesome and the general Welfare so precarious, we desire you will fix upon as early a day as possible to meet us at Onnondaga. As this meeting will be of great importance to the common cause we must press upon you to be present at it and that with as little delay as possible, and that you will bring your neighbours the Mohawks of both castles along with you

We would willingly take you by the hand now along with us, but if this can not be done we must beg you will tell us what day you will be at Onnondaga that we may summons the Six Nations, the Delawares & Shawanese and our several Allies to come punctually at the time you shall fix upon Delivered a Belt of Invitation.

Brother Warraghiyagey

With half of this Belt (holding one up) we put you in mind that as you have often told us we are as one people and one Family, we must now inform you that as this meeting at Onnondaga will be a very considerable one, and at which will be present a great number of Indians of several Nations, we are by reason of the present situation of affairs, which require our young men to be constantly in Arms attending the operations of our Bretheren the English, very short of Provisions, & by no means able to provide for such numbers as will come to this Meeting We therefore hope & desire you will bring along with you some Provisions to assist us to support the many Indians who will assemble at Onnondaga on this occasion

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[1] See note *supra*, p. 82. — Ed.

Brother Warraghiyagey

With the other half of this Belt we acquaint you that as you desir'd the Six Nations in general and we Onnondagas in particular would have our eyes constantly fixed upon Oswego our Trading Place and keep out Scouts in order to discover and make known the motions & designs of the enemy. This we have constantly done, and no sooner one scouting party comes in but we send out an other, and upon gaining any intelligence immediately communicate it to the commanding officer at Oswego and this we shall continue to do with our utmost zeal & abilities, for brother we are determined to live and die with our Bretheren the English

Now Brother you know that arms and ammunition are not only the means of our Livelyhood and that by constant use they must be wearing out & expended, but more especially at this time when they are constantly in our hands not only for our Maintenance but to assist our Bretheren the English, we must therefore desire Brother that you will bring along with you to this meeting at Onnondaga, a good supply of arms powder & Ball as things absolutely needfull at this conjuncture. Don't think Brother we are so earnest on this point with a view of private advantage, for we propose to use our arms & ammunition in conjunction with our Bretheren the English against their and our Enemies— Then gave the whole Belt

Ed. Di. P. M.

Sir William Johnsons answer to the foregoing Speech

Bretheren of Onnondaga

The condolence of your Nation on our late misfortune at the Carrying place is friendly and acceptable these things are the natural consequences of War and I hope they will animate both you and us with a laudable spirit of Resentment

Bretheren

I am very glad to find that your Remonstrances to the Delaware & Shawanese Indians have had the desired effects and that they not only repent of their cruel and unjust behavior towards their Bretheren the English, but now perceive what is their true Interest and duty, and are disposed to join with you and us against the common enemy. Agreeable to their request & your urgent desire, I propose to come up to the intended meeting at Onondago and to be there in 20 Days from this day There are several reasons which prevent my being able to go with you now or to attend sooner, one of which is that I have been lately called three times to the German Flatts and Oneida carrying place by which means I have a great deal of business upon my hands which must be attended to before I can leave again. I shall give timely notice to the Mohawks of both Castles to be ready to go when I call upon them

Promised to return their Invitation Belt at Onnondaga

Bretheren

I am sensible that at this time more especially you will not be able to find Provisions for such a number of Indians as will probably be at this Meeting, and I shall therefore agreeable to your request take care to assist with a supply of Provisions

Bretheren

It gives me great pleasure to hear that you manifest that attention to your true Interest and my Exhortations as to be duely watchful over your trading place at Oswego by keeping constant scouting Parties round it. I hope you will in this and by every other Method continue to let your and our enemies the French and their Indians see that you look upon the preservation of Oswego not only as a security to your own Castles, but as a place which your honor and your Interest calls on you to protect from their encroaching attempts, and that you will to the utmost of your power keep the road to it free and open.

Bretheren.

I well know how necessary arms & ammunition are to you at all times and particularly so at this I shall do every thing in my power to obtain and bring with me as much and as good of the kind as I possibly can. but as several armaments are now making throughout this Continent these important Articles are thereby rendered scarce and difficult to be obtained, and that I may have time to get the best and as large a quantity of these as I can is an other reason why I cannot sooner meet you at Onnondaga A Belt.

To the foregoing their Speaker replyed

Brother Warraghiyagey

You have given us a very satisfactory answer to the several particulars which we had in charge from our Castle, we are extreemly obliged to you for it, and we shall punctually make our report thereof on our arrival at our Castle.

The friendship between our Bretheren the English and us hath been of an ancient date and a long continuance and we can not more effectually distress our enemies than by stedfastly uniting ourselves together against them.

Sir William then told them as he had promised their Nation at the late Meeting that when the weather would permit he would send People up to build them a Fort, this he now intended speedily to do and desired their people would agree upon a proper place to build it, and hoped when the Workmen came up they would use them well and avoid any Quarrels or disagreem^{ts} and that he would give a charge to the Workmen to behave well on their side.

Then the Conference broke up

Fort Johson 22^{d} Ap^{l} 1756. P. M.

The Mohawk Delegates who were sent down to the River Indians waited upon Sir W^{m} Johnson & gave him the following account of their Negociation

Brother Warraghiyagey

Our Delegates are returned from our Nephews the River Indians and we are come to this our Fire place with them to give you a relation of our proceedings

Brother Warraghiyagey

Our Nephews were extreemly glad to see us and expressed their gratitude for our Invitation to them which they readily accepted of and promised as soon as they could gather their people together which they beleived would be next month they would remove hither & accept our offers. They said the had looked upon themselves as a people abandoned and were extreemly glad to find their Uncles the Mohawks had not wholly forsaken them but had taken measures for their Welfare & establishment and that previous to their removal they would despatch some of their young men forwards & give us notice of their coming

Hereupon Sir W^m answered

Bretheren of the two Mohawk Castles

I thank you for the account you have given me of your proceedings with your Nephews the River Indians, I approve thereof & am glad to find they have so readily and gratefully embraced your kind & prudent Invitation. When they come & are incorporated with you I shall consider and treat them as Bretheren & assist them accordingly & I hope they will be an addition to your strength & Welfare

Fort Johnson 29 April 1756 A M.

The Report of Myndert Wemp who arrived this day with his son and a Seneca Warrior from the Senecas Country where he was sent by Sir William Johnson to reside as a Smith

That he was ordered to stay there untill the Corn was a foot high, the scarcity of Provisions was such amongst them that he could not subsist, and the Indians told him that he must leave them for they could not supply him for which reason he came away.

He says they are all determined to meet Sir William at Oswego agreeable to his late Invitation and to go out a fighting with him, that some of their Warriors were going out a fighting against the Flatt heads but the Sachems who were at the late meeting at Fort Johnson gave them a skalp & told them they must stay at home in order to attend their brother Warraghiyagey with which the said Warriors complied & laid aside their intended expedition, but said that when their brother Warraghiyagey came to Oswego they hoped he would not do as was done there last year, sit still eat drink & make excuses that now the wind was too high & such like things which do not become a Warrior, who when he is once engaged should not draw back, that the English begin but do not go through with any thing—that they plainly saw nothing would be done last year and for that Reason they left Oswego & returned home

That they were greatly pleased with Sir Williams promise of building a Fort for them & hoped he would not delay doing it and they desired that some of Myndert Wemps sons when the Fort was built might reside there as the understood their language, were known to them & were Smiths. They desire some Indian Corn may be speedily sent them, for their scarcity is such that without it they can't attend their Brother Warraghiyagey as they will have no bread to subsist them on the Road

As the passed through the Cayouga Country some of that Nation who had been at Niagra about three weeks before told him there were but 100 soldiers at that Fort but they were reparing and making it very strong that they got plenty of Provisions there

That the Senecas desired a little Rum might be brought to their castle for such Indians

He says that this last winter John Abeel brought so much Rum sold it amongst the Indians & caused so much Drunkenness that he was greatly molested & hindered in his work by it & when he threatened John Abeel that he would complain against him, he said he did not care, he would sell it & that for every quart of Rum he sold he got a Spanish Dollar, and that when the Senecas had heard Sir William had stopped his Goods from coming up they expressed great joy & approbation

He says Kindarunte the great Seneca Chief is gone with a very large Belt of Wampum to the Twighties to invite them & the Neighbouring Nations in Sir Williams & the Six Nations name to the intended meeting at Oswego

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Instructions to Captⁿ Marcus Petry

You are immediately to go with twenty five or thirty men to the Oneida Nation with all necessary Tools for building a Fort there & to take with you four pair of good Horses & proper Harness for drawing timber for the same. On your arrival there you are to call a meeting of all the Oneidas & tell them you are sent to build a Fort for their security & that I desire they may immediately agree unanimously on a proper place, if they cannot then you are to tell them my opinion is that Onawaraghhare[1] is the best situation by all accounts for a Fort—when that Point is settled you are to begin the work & make the Fort 120 feet square the Logs to be 16 feet long four of which to be set in the ground & well rammed, two Blockhouses to be built at the opposite corners each Blockhouse to be 24 Feet square below, the upper part above the beams to project a foot over so that men may Fire down upon the enemy. You are to floor them, shingle the Roof & build a Sentry Box on the Top of each house & two strong Gates to be made and set up in the properest places

You are also to keep an exact account how many days each man works and the Horses also and see that they work faithfully

Lastly you are to take care that none of your party use any of the Indians ill nor sell them any liquor at their Peril.

Given under my hand at Fort Johnson this 21 Aprˡ 1756

Wᵐ Johnson

Instructions to Mʳ Jacob Vroman head Carpenter going to Onondaga to build a Fort for the Indians

You are to repair with your best diligence with the men under your direction to Onondaga & there to consult with the Indians of that Nation on a proper spot to build a Fort which Fort is to be one hundred & fifty feet square, the Logs to be either Pine or Oak sixteeen feet long, four feet of which to be set in the ground well rammed and pounded t[w]o sides of each Log to be square so as they may stand close to each other proper Loop holes to be cut at four feet distance the height from the Ground to be left to the Indians, two good Block Houses to be built at either Gate of the opposite Corners each Block House to be twenty four feet square below the upper part above the beams to project a foot so as men may fire down upon the enemy

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[1] Oneida Castleton, in the town of Vernon, Oneida Co., N. Y. The name is written *Canowaroghare* in Sauthiers' Map of New-York. By converting the r into l, it became *Canowaloa*, in the Oneida dialect. *Jones' History of Oneida County*, 841.—Ed.

THE
BERRY
RARY
CAGO

You are to floor the Block Houses Shingle the Roofs & build a good sentry Box on the top of each house & two strong gates of oak Plank of three Inches thick to be set up in the properest places with strong Iron Hinges. You are to keep an exact account of the number of days each man works and of the Horses also and see that they work faithfully

Lastly you are to take care that none of your party quarrel with or use any of the Indians ill or sell them any liquor at their peril

Given under my hand at Fort Johnson this 30 day of April 1756

W^m Johnson

Fort Johnson Wednesday May 5. 1756

At a Meeting of several of the six Nations arrived here from Philadelphia to wit Oneidas, Senecas, Caiyougas, Tuskarora, & Schoharee Indians (among whom was Scharoyady or the half King) and several of their Women & Children

Sir William Johnsons speech Arent Stevens Interp^{tr}

Bretheren

I heartily bid you welcome here to the fire place of the Six Nations & am extreemly glad to see you here at a time when your assistance in public affairs can be of great Service

Bretheren

The loss of our worthy friend Moses who accompanied you & died at Philadelphia gives me great concern and I with these Strings of Wampum sincerely condole the loss of him

Here the Ceremony of Condolence was performed agreeable to their Custom—

Gave three Strings

Bretheren

I yesterday received the News of the approach of a large body of French and Indians to the German Flatts upon which I immediately issued orders for the Militia marching there in order to meet them and prevent their wicked designs. The Militia of this River marched this morning early and will be there this night, those from Albany and Schenectady I minutely expect, when I purpose setting off for that place with them I have likewise acquainted both Mohawk Castles with the News & my design of marching without loss of time to meet the enemy and desired them to join me at the upper Castle I desire by these Strings of Wampum you will take it into consideration and let me know your Resolution

Three Strings of Wampum

They returned their thanks for the compliments of Condolence and promised to join Sir William with the Mohawk Indians

Fort Johnson 10 May 1756

At a Meeting of four Cheifs of the Oneida & Seneca Nations to wit Schoroyady or the half King, an Oneida, Tahwaghsaniunt alias Belt of Wampum & two other Sachems of the Seneca Nation also two Seneca Women

Scaroyady Speaker

Peter Wraxall Sêcry
Interpreters Mr Montour & Jacobus Clement

Brother Warraghiyagey

When I was here last winter you advised me to remove from the Place where I have been for some years past settled, as you thought I was there exposed to the ill designs of the French who knowing me to be a firm friend to the English might contrive to cut me & my people off and hereupon you gave me a Belt of Wampum to come and live this way amongst my countrymen where I should not only be safe but of use and Service. I have listened Brother to your advice & request and am now come here with my people whom you now see at your House. As women have a great influence on our young Warriors, I must desire that the women now present in particular may be acquainted with what news you may have and with all public affairs relating to the five Nations, for their Influence is a matter of no small consequence with our Fighters Gave a String of Wampum

Brother Warraghiyagey

It is no new thing to take women into our councils particularly amongst the Senecas. The Seneca Nation took no care to call those of their Nation who lived with me near the Ohio to return to their National Castles, tis you have done this, and we are very much obliged to you for it

Sir Williams Answer

Bretheren

I am very glad that you have consulted your own security and the good of the common cause in quitting your late habitation and coming hither with your families, I am heartily glad to see you and shall contribute all in my power to make this removal agreeable to you

I am sensible your Women are of no small consequence in relation to public affairs and I shall be always disposed to consult & inform them of our public Business

Gave a String of Wampum

Fort Johnson 12 May 1756.

Several Sachems & cheif Warriors of Conaiyoharee or upper Mohawk Castle arrived here this morning and being seated Sir William Johnson first welcomed them in the usual manner with Pipes & Tobacco & a glass of Rum round, and then told them he expected them yesterday and that their Bretheren of the lower Mohawk Castle came here & waited in expectation of their arrival, that they had a burying to day of a Widdow Woman and when that was over they would attend at the meeting in the mean time, as they were probably hungry & fatigued with travelling he had ordered some victualls to be dressed and they might refress themselves

To this Abraham their Cheif Sachem answered

Brother Warraghiyagey

We should have been here yesterday according to your appointment, but those young men you sent out as scouts when you were at our Castle returned and discovered some Tracks of the enemy which detained us from setting out as we intended

We are now come and glad to see yon and when our Bretheren of the Mohawk Castle are present we shall be ready to proceed upon Business (They then returned the Strings of Wampum which Sir William gave them as a token of Invitation hither)

Sir William Johnson upon receiving Intelligence from Col Bradstreet that Oswego was beseiged by the French, had despatched Messengers to the Aughguagey Indians to call upon them to join them at the German Flatts, but upon his arrival there Intelligence coming from Coll Mercer whereby it appeared the former was a false alarm, he dispatched some Indians from Conajoharry to Aughguagey to stop those Indians from proceeding in consequence of his former Message

The following is the relation which the Conajoharie Messengers gave of what passed on their arrival at Aughguagey

Conojoharee Abraham Speaker

Brother Warraghiyagey

We are to acquaint you that the Messengers from the Southward are returned and made the following report of their proceedings

When they arrived at Aughquagey they found all the Warriors there ready to join you upon the call you gave them by a Message you sent to them by some of our Bretheren the Scoharees upon the late alarm

But upon our Messengers acquainting them of its being a false alarm, they said it was very well and desired they would acquaint you that they would always keep their arms in their hands that if any future alarms should happen they might jump up at a call and join you instantly

Our Messengers likewise were informed by the Aughquageys that the Indians living at Tiyaoga and there abouts declared themselves in the following manner concerning the disputes between them and the English, "That they sincerely repented of what they had done and were determined to drop all Hostilities & live in friendship with the Indians as heretofore, and that they would come to all the meetings for the time to come which shall be appointed by their brother Warraghyagey at the same time declared that their uncles (meaning the Six Nations) had not used them as they should have done in not informing them of every news they were acquainted with by the English which neglect contributed in a great measure to what had happened, and that for the future they should be glad to be called every meeting that they might hear every thing proposed by their Bretheren the English. They further added, that there was yet one man amongst them, who persisted in being ill minded against the English and was ready to go to Ohio. They concluded with desireing of their uncles not to give credit to every idle story the might be falsely informed of, and gave a large Belt thereupon

Fort Johnson 12 May P. M.

Speech of the Indians of the Lower Mohawk Castle

Brother Warraghiyagey

We are come here to our usual place of consultation not only to lay our private case & situation before you but likewise to consult about public affairs which in these troublesome times require almost constant attendance

Brother Warraghiyagey

As we are every day liable to be called from home to join you whereever you desire us, we must therefore propose to you that as now the planting time is coming on whereon our sustenance throughout the year depends that you would be pleased to see our Corn Land secured

We should be glad that you would appoint somebody that understands our Language to take care as well of our Castle as our planting Ground We propose to you Yellows Funda to take that charge upon him, but if it does not suit you to appoint him we think John Wemp will be as fit a person for that purpose

It is true we have a Garrison of regulars but on them we can't depend in this Case, as they don't understand us, nor would be willing to assist us in those matters which we stand in need of. We therefore leave these Matters to your consideration as it concerns our own and our family subsistance A Belt

Sir William told them he would take the subjects of their speech into consideration and give them an answer in due time

12 May P. M.

At a Meeting of the several Cheif Sachems & Warriors of the two Mohawk Castles, and sundry Indians belonging to the Scoharee Castle to the Seneca, Cayouga & Tuscarora Nations (amongst whom were Scharagady or the half King & Tawaghsaniut alias Belt of Wampum a great Seneca Sachem) Sir William opened the occasion of this meeting and addressed himself to them in the following manner.

Interpreters Mr Montour Mr Clause Jacobus Clement

Bretheren of Conajoharee

A few days ago when I called at your castle in my way to the German Flatts, you expressed in a very warm manner your disapprobation and uneasiness on my design of attending the proposed meeting at Onnondaga and said that you had several reasons against my going thither at this juncture, our Bretheren of the lower Mohawk Castle have also expressed themselves in like manner, and I have received a Message from our Bretheren of Aughquagey desireing me not to go to the said Meeting

Bretheren of the Several Nations here present

As you are now agreeable to my request met here together & know that this meeting at Onondaga was appointed at the desire of the Delaware and Susquehanna Indians in conjunction with our Bretheren of Onondaga and that in compliance with the earnest request of said Indians, I agreed to be present at it by the 10 day of this month, I have however upon the account of the late alarm and in consequence of your application to me delayed my journey, therefore desire you will now with the openness of Heart becoming Bretheren, give me your reasons against my attending at this meeting for without sound and justifiable argument I shall be very unwilling to break any promise given to our Bretheren of Onondaga, for in all matters either of more or less importance I am desirous of strictly observing my engagements You will therefore Bretheren take this matter into your serious consideration and explain yourselves to me with suitable candour A Belt

Fort Johnson 13 May 1756 P M.

At a Conference with the sundry Indian [Sachems] as mentioned yesterday.

Same Interpreters

Abraham the Chief Sachem of the upper Mohawk Castle spoke as follows

Bretheren of the five Nations here present

You have referred it to our two Castles to deliver the general Sentiments of all here present on what our brother Warraghiyagey said to us last night, and I am now going to do so.

Brother Warraghiyagey

We were called here to give our opinion in relation to the intended meeting at Onondaga. We have all taken that affair into our serious consideration, the result whereof we will proceed to lay before you

Brother Warraghiyagey

When you were at Lake George we were told by the Governor of New York who was lately arrived from England, that early this Spring he proposed to call the five Nations together

After this you Brother had a Meeting with us in the winter in order to settle the differences between our Bretheren the English and the Delaware and Shawaneese Indians, at this meeting you put us in mind that we were the head or Masters of the Delaware & Shawanese Indians and desired that we would take the Hatchet out of their hands, upon which the five Nations took this affair into consideration and agreed to go and call a Council at Otseningo[1] and we sent some of the Scaniadaradighroonas forward to summons the aforesaid Indians to this meeting. The five Nations then appointed a Deputation to attend at the Council who set off without loss of time, instructed according to your earnest recommendation to exert themselves to the utmost of their power to bring affairs at this meeting to the desired effect

Brother Warraghiyagey

You notified to us at the aforementioned meeting last Winter, that as soon as the Ice was out of the Water you expected the Governors would call us again together. It appears very odd to us that after you had given us this notice of the Governors intention in which the Onondagas were included, they should take upon them to invite you to their meeting at Onondaga

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[1] See note. *Supra*, p. 67. — Ed.

Brother Warraghiyagey

We say it seems very strange to us and contrary to the Custom in force amongst us that the Onondagas who had notice of an intended [meeting] with the Governors of New York should ask you to come to their meeting & bring with you Provisions, Arms & Ammunition, surely they think you can move very easily with such a heavy load. don't they know likewise that you are soon to have a considerable meeting at Oswego.

These things look very oddly in our eyes, and we dont think it all proper for you to attend this Meeting proposed by the Onondagas

Brother Warraghiyagey

We of the two Mohawk Castles in particular are greatly alarmed at your thoughts of going to Onondaga at this critical juncture all you carried with you, and yourself also might fall into the enemies hands. At this time one dont know what place is safe, and whenever you move from your house we tremble for you, for if evill should befall you the whole Country will be open to our Enemies

Brother Warraghiyagey

If you do persist in going to Onondaga or ever leave home at this precarious and dangerous time we shall give ourselves over for lost and if any accident happens to you what will become of your own Bretheren the English as well as we, for we see nobody else who is any ways active but you who are ready to march on every alarm, and indeed with regard to us, when formerly you were not in power you were always ready to shew your love and care of us

Brother Warraghiyagey

An other reason why our hearts tremble about your going to Onondaga, is that if you should go the Mohawks of both Castles are all determined to attend you and leave our Castles empty, by which means all our familys would lye exposed to the enemy, and after all these reasons given we dont apprehend there can be any just blame laid upon you for breaking your word, with the Onnondagas, who if they want to speak with you can easily step into their bark Canoes and come down here to you as the Bark now peels easily and they come down stream, whereas it will be a long & tedious journey for you loaded with the necessaries they ask for.

Gave a Belt

To the foregoing speech Sir William replyed as follows

Bretheren of the several Nations here present

I have heard your reasons against my going to Onondaga according to my promise and I think they are not without their weight, and tho' I am sensible my going at this juncture would be attended with some risk, yet were I sure of meeting the Delaware & Shawanese Indians there, I would notwithstanding be inclined to go if you think they will not be there and as you are invited to this Meeting as well as I I desire you will advise me what message we shall both send to our Bretheren of Onondaga for not going there.

Friday May 14th P M.

At a Meeting, present as before

The Indians having sent notice to Sir William that they were now ready to answer what he had said to them yesterday evening Tawagsaniunt alias the old Belt a Chief Seneca Sachem who came with Scharoyady or the Half King spoke as follows

Brother Warraghiyagey

Yesterday you referred it to us to consider what it would be proper to do in relation to your going to Onondaga, We have seriously considered this affair and think it will be right to send forthwith a proper person to Onnondaga to see if the Delaware and Shawanese Indians are met their according to their appointment, and we have fixed on two persons for this business namely Brant' son Thomas of the Lower Mohawk Castle and a Seneca Warrior called Silver heels

Here they held a small consultation after which the speaker went on & said

Brother Warraghiyagey

As you have desired our advice what to do with regard to our Bretheren of Onondaga, We think as you told us last Winter there was to be a meeting of the Six Nations with the Governor of New York this spring, it would not be amiss if you now by the Messengers that are going invite the six Nations down here and if the Delaware and Shawanese are at Onondaga, to desire the Onondagas to bring them also down when all affairs relating to those Indians might be adjusted here

To this Sir William answered

Bretheren

From several accounts which I have lately received I have reason to doubt whether the Delaware & Shawanese Indians will come to the proposed meeting at Onondaga, I therefore approve of the method you propose of sending thither to see if they are there & I also much approve of the persons you have fixed on to go there, as I am determined to comply with my promise if these Indians should be at Onondaga, I hope you will send away these Messengers without any delay and if they find the Delawares & Shawanese there I shall give it them in charge to desire them to stop a few days & I will be up there, but if they are neither come nor expected then to tell the Onondagas I shall defer meeting the five Nations till I see them at Oswego

Bretheren

The meeting which I mentioned to you last Winter which might take place early this Spring, I did in the name of the Governor of New York, but the present disturbed state of affairs and the many urgent & important matters which require his attention at New York, have prevented his holding this meeting as intended, and you will likewise remember that I told you there was to be a great Meeting early this Summer at Oswego. for these reasons I can not take upon me to call the Six Nations down here at this time as I expect His Majestys Service will call me speedily to Oswego to attend the Meeting which is appointed there for the Western Indians

Hereupon the conference broke up and an end was put to this meeting

Saturday the 15th May A. M.

At a Meeting of several of the Sachems and others of the lower Mohawks Castle Sir William gave the following answer to their speech of the 12th Instant

Bretheren

I have considered what you mentioned to me about fencing in your corn and helping you to plant it and also of your request about the persons to command in your Fort

As to the first if you will look for proper persons who will undertake to repair your Fences & assist you in planting your Corn & send them to me, I will agree with them for it, I am sensible of the necessity & prudence of getting this done for you as it will otherwise be a much greater charge to the King your Father to buy & maintain you in Corn, without which you and your familys can not subsist.

But I am not Bretheren so well pleased or satisfied with your other request, and your naming Persons to me to command the Garrison for your Fort I do not think you are so well qualified to judge what Persons are proper for these Posts as I am. I know it has been and is the Custom for People with a view to their own private advantage to sooth and flatter you into solicitations for them but I must desire you will not fall into this Trap, but leave these appointments to me or to those to whom it more immediately belongs. At present you have a Garrison of His Majesties Troops & I think they will be a sufficient security for you as long as they remain when they are drawn off, I will then take care to provide you with a sufficient number of men and a proper officer in their Room Gave a Belt.

Fort Johnson 20 May 1756

Canaghquiesa a Chief Sachem of Oneida, with two young Indians one an Oneida the other a Tuscarora arrived this afternoon & Canaghquiesa spoke as follows

Mr Clause Interpreter
Rudt a Tuscarora Chief also present

Brother Warraghiyagey

At the Meeting you had with the Six Nations this last Winter you pressed us so warmly to take into consideration the Hostilities committed against our Bretheren the English by the Delaware & Shawanese Indians and to interpose our influence and authority over those Indians to prevent any more blood from being shed, that we could not avoid takeing that matter upon us & accordingly a Deputation from the six Nations was appointed to hold a council with those Indians at Otseningo.[1] I was one who went there and those Indians were so much convinced by the arguments which we made use of that they repented what they had done & solemnly promised that they would not again hurt the Hair of the Head of any Englishmen. They told us they were thankful the five Nations had put them in mind of their former Engagements and that they would now throw every thing that was evil behind their backs. That they had been in darkness but now their eyes were opened and their minds made easy. The Indians who spoke to us in the foregoing manner were Shawanese Chickesaws & Mihikanders who further told us that they had at several times sent Belts of Wampum to the Delawares who live at

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[1] See note. *Supra*, p. 67. — ED.

Tiaoga with Messages to forward to the Six Nations which they neglected to do, that therefore for the future they were determined to address themselves to the Six Nations directly and would attend any Meeting which their Brother Warraghiyagey would call them to and be glad to take him by the hand

Brother Warraghiyagey

One of the Skaniadaradighroonas who lives near the aforesaid Indians had applied to the Delawares who live at Tyaoga to accompany them to the proposed meeting at Onondaga, which they refused to do saying that one Thos: M^c^Gee who lives upon the Susquehana and is married to a Shawanese Squa had told them that in ten days time an Army of the English would come & destroy them, and said to them further "You can not think that as you have "murdered the English from Conastoga to Esopus that they will put up with it quietly and "Warraghiyagey may pretend to make Peace with you but that is not in his power. The "Governor of Pensylvania is master this way & will not listen to Peace." The Tyaoga Indians said they would not therefore leave home but prepare to defend themselves against the hostile Intentions of the English and that they had sent out ten Men as Scouts to observe the motions of the English

Brother

When we received this Intelligence at Oneida we immediately sent a Message to the Delawares at Tiyaogo[1] insisting upon their attending the Meeting at Onondaga—I have now brother done with this piece of News and I shall proceed to tell you some thing else very bad

Brother.

Several Soldiers from Oswego and the Carrying Place have come amongst us at Oneida and among the Tuscaroras and told us that the Great King our Fathers son was arrived at Boston with a great army and was coming up to destroy all the Six Nations and to begin with the Mohawks and that all the Troops from Oswegoe and the carrying place were to surround and assist in cutting us off. these People told us they were come to live and die with us and advised us without delay for our own Preservation to cut off the communication with Oswegoe whilst it was short of Provisions. One of these soldiers who came from Oswegoe says he lived three years with the Governor of Philadelphia and there often heard of this design of cutting off all the Indians

Brother

You must not imagine I give credit to these things for I have brought no Wampum with me upon it, but I am come down to you in order to inform you & be able to satisfie our People who are greatly alarmed & disheartned by these stories.

Fort Johnson 21 May 1756.

There having for some time past a jealousy & disagreement subsisted between the Indians living at Schoharee who have been split into two parties at the head of which were *Seth* and *David* two of their cheif men Sir William Johnson had interposed and sent three strings of

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[1] Now Athens, Bradford county, Penn. It was formerly known as Tioga point; from *Teyaogen*, an Interval, or anything in the middle of, or between two other things. *Bruyas. Radices Verb. Iroquæorum.* Hence, *Teiohohogen*, the Forks of a River. *Gallatin's Vocabulary*, 387; a much more appropriate name, it will be admitted, than that imported from Greece.—Ed.

Wampum to these Indians admonishing them to unanimity and brotherly love setting forth the inconsistency and danger of quarrels & divisions amongst them at this critical Juncture. during these animosities amongst them one party had applied for a Fort & the other was against having one. Sir William told them that if they would follow his admonitions and be reconciled together he would then comply with what they should unanimously request

This evening the aforesaid David arrived here with three strings of Wampum & made the following speech

Brother Warraghiyagey

Our People have listened to your good advice & we have had a general Meeting of all the Women & children belonging to our settlement together with the River Indians who were lately come to live amongst us and all former misunderstandings are now removed and an entire end put to every kind of quarrel amongst us

Brother

I am sent to you by our People in the first place to thank you for your good advice and to inform you that we have acted and are determined to act conformably to it, and in the next place to acquaint you that we are now unanimously desirous of having a Fort built for us as soon as possible the disturbances to the Southward alarm us and we have received information that those Indians who have fallen on the Southern parts threaten that they will by and by come against the part of the country where we live. We are besides in hopes that when we have a Fort it will be the means of drawing many Indians who now live dispersed on the Delaware & Susquehana Rivers to come and live amongst us which will add to our strength and consequence Gave 3 Strings of Wampum

Brother

After the foregoing Message to you was agreed upon, I had further in charge to tell you, that our People beg leave to advise you in return for your good advice to them, to take care of the great trust committed to you of having the affairs of so many Nations of Indians under your Direction, that you will be steady in your measures and continue to take the same friendly concern for our Welfare as you have hitherto done, and as an instance of it we hope you will supply the wants of those River Indians who are lately come to settle amongst us & our Neighbours the Mohawks—they are naked & destitute of ever thing—

Gave 3 Strings of Wampum

To the Foregoing Sir William replyed

Brother

I am rejoiced to hear that all your late misunderstandings are at an end and that you are again united in mutual Love and Friendship you will certainly find the advantage & pleasure of such an union

I will immediately give orders for the building your Fort which I hope will be attended with the good consequences you mention

Brother

You may depend I shall continue my care of and attendance to your Welfare as I have always done, and I will supply the wants of those River Indians who have lately put themselves under your protection Gave 3 Strings of Wampum

Fort Johnson May 22 1756 A. M.

Sir William Johnson's answer to Conaghquiesa and the other Indians who spoke the 20th inst^t^

M^r^ Clause Interpreter
also present Paulus the Great Hendrick's Son & a Seneca Sachem

Bretheren

I thank you for the Intelligence you have given me concerning the Southern Indians, and heartily wish they may pay a due regard to the admonitions which have been given them by the Six Nations and myself in conjunction as it will be for their true Interest

Bretheren

I am not so much surprized at the wicked lies and the silly falsehoods which the English Soldiers who desert tell to your people, as at their readiness to beleive such groundless accusations against their Bretheren the English, whose love and Friendship you and your Forefathers have for so many Generations experienced and found us on every occasion so far from shewing any ill designs towards you that you have seen us always ready to venture our lives for your preservation as you know this last winter when I came running up with so many men to assist you and fight for you

You know that the Great King of England your Father has ever behaved to you as his children, and at your request appointed me to the management of your affairs and has given me money and his orders to take care of you as his children you know I have done so, therefore for you to give credit to idle reports to the prejudice of his your Fathers character and to be suspicious of your Bretheren the English is both highly ungrateful and very foolish — don't you know that these soldiers who desert are Traitors to their King & Country and think to secure themselves amongst you by telling these abominable Lyes to impose on you and make you beleive they are your Friends but Bretheren let not your people be so imposed on, but be assured that those who cowardly & treacherously desert from the Service of their King & country can be friends to none but deserve to be detested and abhorred by all Man kind. Such People are worse than the French themselves, and if your People had acted like wise men & faithful Bretheren, they would not either have beleived or harboured those villains but have brought them down to me, and you would have seen how like Traytors & Liars they would have appeared. And Bretheren I must insist upon it that whenever such Traytors come among you and stir up such discontents and suspicions against your Bretheren the English, that you bring them down prisoners to me, and by that means you will give a convincing proof that you are true and faithful Children to your Father the Great King & Bretheren the English. And by this Belt of Wampum I expect and desire that your Nation will not be so ready to listen to lyes & Stories against your Bretheren the English as you have been often apt to do and which but too clearly appears in this instance —

Gave a Belt of Wampum

Fort Johnson 22 May. 1756. P. M.

Sir William Johnsons speech to the River Indians who are come to live with the Indians of the Lower Mohawk Castle

Children

I am glad to see you here and am much pleased that you have accepted the offers of your uncles the Mohawks and are come to live near and put yourselves under their protection who I hope will be kind to you & ready to assist you as occasion may require & I must admonish you on your parts so to behave yourselves as to merit their protection and assistance

3 Strings of Wampum

Children

I shall at all times be disposed to consider & releive your necessary wants and I expect as you have now land allotted for your subsistance you will be diligent in improving the same and lead sober and industrious lives—You are to remember that what I now and may hereafter say to you or do for you is by order & in the name of our Sovereign the Great King of England who has determined to remove His & your enemies the French from their encroachments in these parts & it will be your duty and Interest to join with your Uncles the Mohawks in aiding His Majestys arms for that purpose, and I shall supply such as go out to war against the enemy with arms & Ammunition A Belt

Children

As I understand you are destitute of Provisions and cloathing I will now give you 50 Skipple of Corn which I expect you will divide equally amongst you and make use of it with Frugality, I shall also give you a stock of Pipes & Tobacco. When I get some Goods up which I shortly expect I will give you cloathing for your people

To this they replyed that they were not at present supplyed with Wampum to make an answer which they would take an opportunity of soon doing.

Fort Johnson 23 May 1756 P M

Brandts son Thomas one of the Messengers who was sent the 14th Inst to Onondaga came this afternoon with several Sachems & Warriors of the Lower Mohawk Castle and the heads of the River Indians in order to give an account of the business he was sent about to Onondaga. at this Meeting was also present the old Belt a Great Seneca Sachem, his Son Arosa who went with Thomas, another Seneca Indian and a Tuscarora Sachem.

Canadagai Chief Sachem of the lower Mohawk Castle spoke as follows

Bretheren

I am now going to give our Brother Warraghiyagey an account of what our Messengers, have reported concerning the affair they were sent upon & I shall begin with their arrival at Onondaga

Brother

When they came to Onondaga a Meeting was called but there were no Southern or any other Indians yet arrived

At this Meeting our messengers delivered what they had in charge.

The Onondagas when our Messengers had done spoke as follows

"Tell our Brother Warraghiyagey that we have for some time been in expectation of a message from him about his coming up, and till we knew his positive resolution, we have kept ourselves in readiness to act according as that might be. We are therefore glad he has now sent to us, in consequence of which we shall dispatch our young men into all quarters to the Southward as well as to our Bretheren of the Six Nations to give them notice to come without further delay to meet our Brother Warraghiyagey at this Fire place by the beginning of next month. We think he can not conveniently be here sooner as he must travel slowly loaded with the several necessaries which he is to bring with him

For some time past evil Reports against our Bretheren the English have been coming to us from all parts, so that if our confidence & Friendship were not firmly grounded it would have been sufficient to turn both our heads and our Hearts—but as soon as our Brother Warraghiyagey makes his appearance amongst us we doubt not at all these Clouds will be dispelled, and our young Fighters whose Hearts are zealously disposed towards their Bretheren the English will be thoroughly composed and settled

"Desire our Brother Warraghiyagey to be punctual to the time now fixed on for the sooner he comes all uneasiness & every effect of these evil Reports will be removed. Our Warriors are very desirous of seeing him, for they look upon him as their Cheif having great confidence in & dependance upon him, in these difficult times they want to consult with him and to have that assistance from him which their present circumstances require All our Bretheren and allies who are to be at this Meeting stand ready to sett off when they hear our Brother Warraghiyagey is on the Road

"The Oneidas were the first who proposed this Meeting at Onondaga the antient Fire place of the Six Nations, but as they dont seem to give that attention to it, which we think they ought to have done, we being sensible of the importance of this General Meeting at this critical juncture shall take upon us to summon all our Bretheren and allies to it

"Tell our Brother Warraghiyagey in answer to his string sent by you to know whether we had despatched the Messenger he desired to the Mississagas to invite them to meet him at Oswegoe that the Messenger went long ago and that the Mississagey Delegates are on their way to the five Nations but are determined they will not meet at Oswegoe, but will at any of the Castles of the five Nations for they say Oswegoe will be so full of People that there will no hearing each other speak

"Tell our Brother further that since we took the Hatchett out of the hands of the Delaware & Shawanese, they have told us there is an army of the English coming against them [it is supposed the 4 or 500 Men under Col Clapham which the Gov^t of Pensilvania has raised and who are to build a Fort at Shamokin is here meant] and that they think it unreasonable and unnatural for us to hold them in our arms & prevent their defending themselves, when people are just on their Backs to destroy them

We are informed the English are building a Fort at Shamokin. we can't comprehend the method of makeing a War which is made use of by our Bretheren the English, when we go to war our manner is to destroy a Nation & theres and end of it but the English chiefly regard building Forts. which looks as if their only scheme was to take possession of the Lands"

Fort Johnson May 26. 1756 P M

Abraham the cheif Sachem of Conajoharee Castle young Abraham a cheif Sachem of the lower Mohawk castle, Sith chief Sachem of the Scoharee Indians and two Seneca Sachems called the old Belt & Seneca George desired to speak a few words with Sir William Johnson

Mr Clause Interpreter

Abraham of Conajoharee spoke as follows

Brother Warraghiyagey

At the Meeting which was held some days ago here at our fire place relating to your Journey to Onondaga, we advised you to send Messengers to learn whether that proposed meeting took effect. Those Messengers report that they found no meeting there as yet but brought you the ernest request of the Onondagas that you would come up without delay, and that as soon as they heard you were on the road, they would send expresses to all the Nations who kept themselves in readiness to sett of on the first notice Now, Brother, we that are hear have been seriously reconsidering this affair and are come to this opinion. That as the upper Nations seem to be in an unsettled and wavering temper, We think tho there is a Risk the French may attack you in your Journey there, which gives us a good deal of uneasiness yet that you cannot prudently decline going to this meeting and the two Mohawk Castles with the Seneca Sachems here present and their people are determined to go along with & be a guard to you

Brother

As you are now about setting out on this journey we beg leave to give you our further opinion & advice thereon which is that as the French are without doubt apprized of this meeting, & dread the consequences of it, they will certainly endeavor to prevent it & therefore we ernestly intreat you to take a good number of men with you, you have plenty of men [they here mean the militia of the Country] as for the two Mohawk Castles they are but a handful by taking this precaution you will probably defeat the attempts of the French & destroy many of them, whereas if you are cut off what a loss shall we sustain and how will the French glory in their success & your imprudence. Brother let us go strong and behave like men and then whatever be the event we shall not be ashamed

Brother

An other reason for our desiring this conference and that you will take up a good strong body of men, is that this Road which was formerly a Road of peace & security is now stained with blood and become very dangerous, and we would further advise you that when you come to the German Flatts you will send forward a message to the upper nations not to be surprized or allarmed that you are coming up with a large body of men, because as they informed you their young men were scattered about, some at Oswegoe and others out on the scout, they could not send you a sufficient number for your protection, & therefore you were obliged to bring your own people along with you

Brother

It was a charge we received from our wise Forefathers that we should in times of Danger take a special care to secure our wives & children & our Lands Now Brother in your & our absence we know they will be exposed to the enemy and therefore we do by these four strings of Wampum intreat you will take care that a sufficient number of men are sent to reinforce our two Mohawk Castles. Don't be sparing Brother you have men enough we only want these reinforcements whilst we are out on this journey Gave 4 Strings of Wampum

Brother

Our Women of the two Mohawk Castles have given it as a solemn charge to us that we should use our utmost Interest that a strong guard be left to defend them in our absence and say if you don't, they never expect to see us again for that they will certainly [be] destroyed, by the enemy and our Brothers the Senecas here present join in the same request in behalf of their Familys who are now and will stay at your House. Brother our women are very dear to us & their request and opinions are always regarded by us in an especial manner & we press this matter upon you by these Strings of Wampum.— Gave 3 Strings of Wampum

Brother

We have now finished what we had to say and only want to know the day you propose to set off.

Sir Williams answer

Bretheren

I join with you in opinion that my going up to Onondaga at this juncture is highly necessary. As to the Body of Men you so strongly advise me to take along & reinforcements for the two Mohawk Castles as well as a guard for my House I have already mentioned these matters to General Shirley who is His Matys Command^r in Cheif, I will now send by express to him what you have said to me & when I have his answer will immediately communicate it to you and at the same time let you know the day I shall sett out for Onondaga

Fort Johnson 26 May 1756. P. M.

Sir William's Speech to Seth a Cheif Sachem of the Scoharee Indians

Brother

I am informed that the Indians who are lately come from different parts to settle at your Castle, dont act brotherly by the People at Scoharee, but kill their cattle & hogs & behave in a disorderly manner

Brother

These are unbecoming and very unjustifiable proceedings and as these Indians are now come to incorporate themselves with our castle I desire and expect that you and your people will interpose your authority and influence to prevent the repetition of any such irregularities

If these Indians are injured by the inhabitants let them apply to me and I will take care Justice shall be done them to the utmost of my Power Gave 3 Strings of Wampum

A true copy from the Records of Indian affairs
examined by me
Peter Wraxall
Sêcry

them; and it will strengthen your Interest very much to have a strong House there. Indeed you lose Ground every day till this be done. Pray hasten the Work, the Warriors say they will go along with you, and aſsist you in building a Fort there.

The Council being informed by the Interpreter, that John Shick Calamy wanted to return to Keshkopechon, in order to bring off his Brothers and Family, and was very uneasy least the Enemy Indians when they came to go away should do them a Mischief, they made him a Present of twenty eight Pieces of Eight, and sent a String of Wampum with a Meſsage to Paxonosa the Shawanese Chief by him, to thank him and the other Indians of his Town for the faithful Part they had acted, and to aſsure them that the Government would give them a hearty Welcome, if they would come among their Brethren of Pennsylvania.

The Council ordered fifty five Pieces of Eight to be given to Aroas and David, thirty to Aroas, and twenty five to David; with which they were well pleased.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Wednesday the 3d. March 1756.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell, William Logan,
Richard Peters, Lynford Lardner,
John Mifflin, Thomas Cadwalader, Esquires

The Minutes of the two last preceding Councils were read and approved.

The Indians made their Speeches which were immediately laid before the House and are as follow.

46,

Pennsylvania. 1756.

Two Members from the House waited on the Governor with a verbal Meſsage, desiring to know if the Governor had come to any Result upon the Bill for regulating the Indian Trade, and the Bill for dispersing the French Neutrals; to which the Governor made Answer, that he did not think the Indian Trade Bill would be of any Service at this time; but if the House were of a different Opinion, he would take it into Consideration; and as to the other Bill, it was before the Council; and thereupon the Bill was read a second Time, and no Objection being made thereto, it was returnd to the House with the Governor's Aſsent.

Several Petitions were read from the back Inhabitants, complaining that their Crops were lost or destroyed by the Indians, and praying that a Stop might be put to the Exportation of Provisions, least the Province should not have sufficient for its own Consumption; and the following Meſsage sent to the Aſsembly thereupon.

Gentlemen,

The Secretary will lay before you Petitions from a Number of the Inhabitants of this and other Counties, setting forth, that the last Year's Crop of Grain was not so plentiful as usual. That great Quantities had been destroyed by the Indians, and that the Back Inhabitants being drove from their Plantations, the Publick would be deprived of the Benefit of the Grain they had put into the Ground. They therefore pray that a Stop may be put to the Exportation of Provisions, in order to prevent a Scarcity, which they are apprehensive there will be, if such a Measure be not taken.

As you come from the different Parts of the Province, you are the best Judges of the Circumstances of the Country in that Particular; and I recommend it to you to consider of this Matter; and if you judge it neceſsary to prevent the Exportation of Provisions, you will prepare a Bill for that Purpose.

Philadelphia
March 3d. 1756.

Robt. H. Morris

At

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At a Council held at Philadelphia, Wednesday the 3d March, 1756.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell,	William Logan,	Esquires.
Richard Peters,	Lynford Lardner,	
John Mifflin,	Thomas Cadwalader,	

The Minutes of the two last preceding Councils were read and approved.

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"As you come from the different Parts of the Province, you are the best Judges of the Circumstances of the Country in that Particular; and I recommend it to you to consider of this Matter; and if you judge it necessary to prevent the Exportation of Provisions, you will prepare a Bill for that Purpose.

"ROB$^{T.}$ H. MORRIS.

"Philadelphia, March 3d, 1756."

At a Council held at the State House in Philadelphia, Thursday 4th March, 1756.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell,	William Logan,	Esquires.
Richard Peters,	Lynford Lardner,	
John Mifflin,	Thomas Cadwalader,	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor's Answer to the Indians was read, approved, and delivered as follows:

"Brethren:

"We have considered the several Matters mentioned in your Speeches, and are now going to return you our answer.

"We thank you for the care you have taken in the Business recommended to you at Carlisle, and are well satisfied with the conduct of the two Messengers.

"By this Belt (here the Governor took the Belt given by the Indians) you put us in Mind of the Chain of Friendship subsisting between us and the Six United Nations. You have added fresh Fuel to the Council Fire burning here in Philadelphia. You have desired us, notwithstanding what we have suffered by the Delawares, not to think the worse of you nor of the Six Nations, but to keep up a good correspondence with them, and you promise to join us in any Measures we shall take against our Enemies.

"Brethren:

"All that you have said is perfectly agreeable to us, and in Return we assure you, by this Belt, that you will ever find us true to our Engagements; we on our Part throw in fresh wood into the Council Fire. The Ingratitude and Cruelty of the Delawares cannot but be seen in their true colours by the Six Nations, and they will, we doubt not, inflict proper punishments on them, as they are in Subjection to them. Justice requires that we should distinguish the innocent and friendly Indians from such as are guilty and at War with us. This Distinction, the Indians may rest assured, we shall ever make.

the best Judges of the Circumstances of the Country in that Particular; and I recommend it to you to consider of this Matter; and if you judge it necessary to prevent the Exportation of Provisions, you will prepare a Bill for that Purpose.

"ROB$^{T.}$ H. MORRIS.

"Philadelphia, March 3d, 1756."

At a Council held at the State House in Philadelphia, Thursday 4th March, 1756.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell,	William Logan,	Esquires.
Richard Peters,	Lynford Lardner,	
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"We desire you will on your Part hold fast the Chain of Friendship, and not listen to any Stories, or take Offence at the ill Language you may receive from the meaner Sort of our People. There are among you, as well as among us, bad People, whose Words are of no Signification. Consider only as Truth and worthy of your notice what shall be communicated to you from the Government from time to time at this Fire; and you will always find true Information of the State of Publick Affairs."

A Belt.

"Brethren:

"As to the strong House you have frequently desired us to build at Shamokin, you well know that we are ready to do any thing for the Safety of our Friends among the Indians, and our own People. We expect every Day to see Scaroyady and Andrew Montour, with agreeable News from our Brethren the Six Nations; and as soon as they arrive in this Town, you will have Notice immediately, and we shall build the Fort.

"Brethren:

"We thank you for the kind offer of your Warriors to assist us; let them be ready at a Moment's Warning."

A String.

"Brethren:

"We think Harris' an inconvenient Place for your Residence, even until the Fort shall be built at Shamokin, and would rather chuse you should live with the Conestogoe Indians, where you may be in greater Security, and better provided with necessaries."

A String.

Then the Goods were laid before them, and the List read over, and the Present delivered, amounting to £48 19 3. The Indian Chiefs conferred together, and then returned their answer, vizt: "That they thankfully accepted the Proposal to live with the Conestogoe Indians; by this Proposal they saw their Brethren had really at Heart their Safety, and had well considered the danger to which they were exposed at Harris', they took this exceeding kindly. They hoped the Governor would order convenient places to be made for them to live in, that they might be Sheltered from the Weather, and as they had concluded to live there, it would be necessary their Families and Effects should be removed before this Resolution shou'd come to be publickly known, for which purpose they desired a Waggon or two might be immediately provided and dispatched to Harris'."

They further acquainted the Governor that their shoes were worn out, and some of them infirm, antient and unable to travel at so severe a Season, and thereupon prayed that they might be provided with Waggons.

A String.

The Governor gave them two Strings in return, and promised to grant the things they requested, and assured them they might depend in finding convenient Places made up for them, and recommended it to them to go directly for their Wives and Children, and communicate this Removal to all our Friendly Indians, that then they might live altogether in one Place.

A Bill amounting to £57 5 6, being a Present now made to the Indians, was sent by Mr. Neave to the Governor. The Secretary set forth in Writing the Circumstances of that Bill, and the Governor was pleased to say he would once more recommend it to the House to be paid, which was done by a verbal message.

The Governor informed the Council that two Members from the House had waited on him with a Bill, intituled "An Act for continuing an Act, intituled 'An Act for laying an Excise on Wine, Rum, Brandy, and other Spirits,'" desiring his Concurrence, and at the same time had desired to know when they should wait upon him, in order to pass the Bill for dispersing the French Neutrals, which was ingrossed into a Law, and that he would be pleased to appoint some of his Council to compare the said ingrossed Bill with the Original, with two of the Members of the House, and that his Honour had informed them he should be ready at eleven o'clock to-morrow morning to receive the House in the Council Chamber for that purpose.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Friday the 5th March, 1756.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell, William Logan,
Richard Peters, Lynford Lardner, } Esquires.
John Mifflin, Thomas Cadwalader,

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Secretary waited upon the House with a verbal Message, that the Governor was now in the Council Chamber ready to receive the House to pass the Bill for dispersing the French Neutrals into a Law. And the Speaker, with the whole House, waited on the Governor with the Bill intituled "An Act for dispersing the Inhabitants of Nova Scotia, imported into this Province, into the several Counties of Philadelphia, Bucks, Chester, and Lancaster, and the Townships thereof, and making Provision for the same;" and the Governor was pleased to give his Assent by enacting the same into a Law. The great Seal was afterwards affixed to it, and it was deposited in the Roll's Office.

conjunction with the Kings Forces, and such as shall be raised in the Colonies, the Lords Commissioners for Trade and Plantations have thought it their Duty upon this great occasion to propose to His Majesty, that you should be appointed Agent and sole Superintendent of the Affairs of the confederate Indians to the northward, by an express Commission from His Majesty, being well assured, from the experience they have had of your Influence among them, and great Abilities in conducting their Affairs, that nothing can so effectually answer the great end proposed of fixing them steadily in our Interest, and engaging them in the Service; and that you may be the better enabled to answer His Majesty's Expectations, the whole Management of this Branch of the Service will be left entirely to your Discretion, and the Commander in Chief will be impowered to furnish you with whatever Sums of Money you shall have occasion for, either for building Forts for the protection of their Wives and Children, whilst they are engaged in the Service, establishing Smiths and other Artificers amongst them, or for making such other Regulations as may remove those Difficulties and Doubts in their Minds which have hitherto operated as an Obstruction to their heartily engaging with Us, and have induced some to enter into Engagement with the French; and that nothing may be wanting on the part of His Majesty to manifest his Regard for them, Lord Loudoun will carry out with him a very large Present to be delivered to them.

The redressing the Grievances complained of by the Indians with respect to the Lands which have been fraudulently taken from them, is a matter, to which a very serious Attention and Regard has been paid; and every Measure, which His Majesty could legally and properly take to redress their Complaints, and prevent the like Abuses for the future, has been pursued, as will more fully appear to you from the inclosed Copy of the Instructions given to S^r^ Charles Hardy with respect to this important point; and as a further Proof of His Majesty's Resolution to protect and defend them in their Rights I am directed by their Lordships to inclose to you a Copy of a Report they have lately made to His Majesty upon an Application from the Proprietors of Pennsylvania, with a Proposal for making Settlements to the westward of the Mountains upon the Lands purchased by the said Proprietors of the Indians at the Meeting at Albany. All which Papers you will communicate to the Indians in such manner and at such times as you shall think most proper.

As to the other Measures which you propose in your Letter of the 21st of July last as advisable to be pursued for putting Indian Affairs upon a proper foot, their Lordships entirely approve them, and have no doubt but that those Measures, as well as any other necessary to be taken, will be carried into execution under the Authority of the Commission which you will receive from His Majesty, and the Directions which will be given to the Earl of Loudoun to aid and support you to the utmost of his Power.

I am, with great Esteem and regard,
Sir Your most obedient
humble Servant

Sr William Johnson, Bart.
John Pownall Secry

LETTER TO THE LORDS OF TRADE.

Fort Johnson March the 6th, 1756.

My Lords

Since I did myself the honour of writeing to your Lordships the 17th. of January from New York, I have had a generall meeting of the Sachems and Warriors of the Six Nations and some of their Allies, particularly a more considerable number of the most remote nation of the Confederacy than has appeared at any Publick Meeting for many years past.

It gives me the most solid pleasure that I can with the greatest truth assure your Lordships that the Six United Nations at this time give us the Strongest intimations of sincerity, and Fidelity, and that they are at length highly sensible of the treacherous, and extensive designs of the French, and from what I more particularly have observed at this meeting, I am convinced there is nothing wanting to cement and enlarge the Brittish Indian Alliance but unanimous and vigourous efforts against the common Enemy, to convince them we are in good earnest to put a stop to their encroachments, and at the same time that we are determined to protect and stand by them as our Friends and Allies.

I herewith transmit to your Lordships a Coppy of my proceedings since I came from Lake George, as also of this publick Conference, from which your Lordships will be better able to form an Idea of the present disposition of the Confederate Indians, and from the facts contained therein, what future expectations we may entertain from our Indian Allies. They seem sollicitous now to enlarge their Confederacy by bringing in the Western Indians which I have been advising them to, these severall years, as a point of the utmost Consequence, and I flatter myself it may now (if we are successfull next Campaign) be accomplished. In order the better to bring about, and continue such an important Alliance, the Indian Trade should I think (with humble Submission to your Lordships) be seriously attended to, and put upon such a Basis, and under such regulations, and restrictions that it may prove the greatest means of bringing in the most remote Nations in a little time. Your Lordships will observe from the Treaty what their Sentiments are upon this important Point.

The intended Congress at Oswegoe is highly pleasing to the Six Nations in Generall, who are now verry sensible of the necessity of enlarging and strengthening the Covenant Chain by a more extensive Alliance, and of maintaining that Superiority which their Forefathers by Conquest obtained over so many and Powerfull Nations. how far they Interest themselves in this, and the many other weighty Matters I have proposed to them at this meeting, will appear by their Answers to which I beg leave to refer your Lordships. from the measures I have taken to give notice to the severall nations of my intention of meeting them at Oswego and the Persons employed for that Purpose, I have reason to expect a Numerous and I hope a Successfull Congress.

The high opinion I have of the present Good temper of the Six Nations, is entirely grounded on Facts which are more conclusive than the most sanguine professions. The Onondagas, Tuscarora's, Oneidas and Aughquageys, your Lordships will observe have earnestly desired Forts in their Countrys, and that they might be properly Garrisoned this can proceed from nothing but a firm resolution of abiding by our Interest, and I look upon it a singular proof of their Fidelity. By this method the French have been so successful in their Indian Interest.—The Grand Monarch has employed his Troops to good purpose in that way, and I make no doubt all the Expence the Court of France has been at in Garrisoning the Indian Towns in their Alliance has been sufficiently compensated. I am fully satisfied this would be a measure of the utmost moment at this important Conjuncture, the Service I confess would be pritty extensive, and require a regiment, but the good Effects which such a step would produce, would abundantly make up the expence.

It would be verry necessary to provide every Castle (especially where there is a Garrison) with a Worthy Person in the Character of Minister of the Gospel. I need not repeat how much the French have done by their Priests even among the Indians in our Alliance, that we ought to counteract them in all their measures I think quite obvious I therefore humbly beg leave to recommend this measure to your Lordships consideration, particularly with regard to Onondaga, and Oneida, that two proper Persons of unblemished Characters might be sent as Chaplains for those Garrisons, and at the same time serve as Missionaries to the Indians, how much may be done in that way, may be readily gathered from the Success the Gospel has had among the Mohawks, who are our most hearty Friends.

I beg the liberty to mention to your Lordships the Reverend Mr. Ogilvie Missionary to the Mohawk Indians who has upon all occasions done every thing in his power for the promotion of true Religion, this Gentlemans Sallary both for this place, and the City of Albany is verry inconsiderable, some further Encouragement to him by some Addition to his Sallary, would be of Service to the common Interest as it would enable him to proceed in His Mission with greater Spirit, and to support the Expences that must attend the keeping up of common Hospitallity among so mercenary a people.

At this Critical, and interresting conjuncture I am sensible the utmost attention should be paid to our Indian Alliance, and no measures left untryed that may have the least tendency to strengthen, and increase it. Wherefore I would humbly propose, a Steady, and Uniform Method of Conduct, a Religious regard to our engagements with them, a more unanimous and vigourous Exertion of our Strength than hitherto, and a tender care to protect them and their Lands, against the Insults, and encroachments of the common Enemy, as the most, and only effectual Method to Attach them firmly to the Brittish Interest, and engage them to act heartily in our favour at this, or any other time.

I have the Honour to be with the utmost respect
My Lords Your Lordships
Most obedient and Most Humble Servant
Wm. Johnson.

Fort Johnson
March the 6th. 1756

P. S. After I finished my Letter the Chiefs of the Seneca Nation desired they might have a Fort Built in their Country, which I promised them, well knowing it will be the means of keeping out French Emissaries from among them and of securing them, and settling their former Weavering disposition.

This moment two Indians arrived here with the inclosed Letters, the one from Onondaga, is wrote by one of our Interpreters left there on purpose for Intelligence, the other is from an officer of General Shirleys posted about half way between this, & Oswegoe. I greatly fear we shall loose that verry important Garrison unless other measures are immediately taken. I dispatched an Express with the Account I recd. both to General Shirley and Sir Charles Hardy, & hope the former will send imediate Relief thither.—if not we shall certainly loose that place, and with it all our Indians.

Your Lordships will pardon my taking up so much of your time, & excuse the inaccuracy of this & the many blunders committed in Copying the transactions of the meeting. Occasioned by the Number of Indians still about me, which leaves me no time to think, or write.

I am Your Lordships
Most &ca.

NOTES FROM EVANS'S MAP OF THE INDIAN SETTLEMENTS ON SUSQUEHANAH IN ORDER TO FORM A SCHEME FOR ATTACKING THEM. 14 MARCH 1756.

Great Swamp lyes about 40 miles W: S. W from Cashuetunk or Station Point: from Bethlehem about 45 miles N N W: From Gnadenhutten about 23 miles N something W. This Swamp lyes just over the Mountains which Evans calls Cashuetunk Mountains, and is 25 miles from N to S and 15 from E. to W: The Bethlehem People say 4 or 500 Indians keep in this Swamp, and from thence tis imagined they send out Parties to destroy the Settlements.

Shamokin, lies on Susquehanah River, at the Mouth of the East Branch, on the East side of the Branch. *Nescopeky* the next Indian Town on the East side the same Branch is 25 miles from thence. *Opolopong* is another 5 miles distant. *Wioming* is on the West side of the same Branch 10 miles from *Opolopong*. *Matchasaung* is on the East side of the same Branch distant from *Wioming* 13 miles.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Tuesday the 9th March, 1756, A. M.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell,
William Logan,
Lynford Lardner,
Benjamin Chew,
Joseph Turner,
Richard Peters,
Thomas Cadwalader,
Esquires.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Secretary informed the Council that as he was this morning taking his leave of the Indians, who were about to set out for Conestogoe Manor, under the Care of Justice Thomson and Mr. John Ross, he was told by two of the Members of Assembly who lately came from Lancaster, that two Persons wou'd not be sufficient to protect them from being hurt by the People on the Road, who were extreamly exasperated against all Indians in general, and particularly these Indians; That this Information was confirmed by Mr. Galbreath and others who yesterday came from Lancaster; and that as one of the Indians now here who was lately sent in Search of another of them that was missing, very narrowly escaped with his Life from a Number of Men who assembled together on the Road near George Aston's, and were with Difficulty restrained from murdering him, it is highly probable they will also attempt to do some Mischief to these Indians.

On this Information the Council were unanimously of Opinion that the Indians should not be suffered to proceed on their Journey without an Escort to protect them, and desired the Governor would represent this to the Commissioners, that they might provide for the Expences that will attend that Service.

The Secretary likewise informed the Council that the Chiefs of the Indians now in Town came to him yesterday, and told him that they were apprehensive their young Men would be perpetually quarrelling if the Six Nation and Conestogoe Indians should be obliged to live in one Place, and, therefore, requested of the Governor that they might live separately, and some Place be prepared on the Manor for the Six Nations at a distance from the Conestogoe Town; and that in their further Discourse with him they did not seem to be very willing to live upon the Manor. It was, therefore, thought proper to send for the Chiefs and give them an Opportunity of speaking their Minds freely, as it would not be for the publick Service that these Indians should remain under any kind of Dissatisfaction as to their place of residence.

The Governor informed the Council that he had received from the House by Two Members a Bill intituled "An Act for regulating and continuing the Nightly Watch, and enlightening the Streets, Lanes, and Alleys of the City of Philadelphia, and for raising of Money on the Inhabitants and Estates of the said City for defraying the necessary Expences thereof."

Then the Bill for regulating the Indian Trade, and the Bill for continuing the Excise on spirituous Liquors were read, and after sundry Amendments being agreed to on each of them they were sent to the House with the said Amendments by the Secretary, who was ordered to acquaint the House that as his Majesty's Service required the Governor's Presence at Newcastle, his Honour purposed to set out for that Place a few days hence.

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At a Council held at Philadelphia, Tuesday the 9th March, 1756, P. M.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell,	Lynford Lardner,	Esquires.
Richard Peters,	Thomas Cadwalader,	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Three Indians called the Old Belt, ——— ——— bringing with them John Davison, the Interpreter, came into Council, and the old Belt delivering a Belt of Wampum said:

"Brethren:

"I have lately lost one of my Ears (meaning Davison the Interpreter), whom I brought with me to hear and see for me, and you have taken away and deprived me of him."

To which the Governor answered:

"Brethren:

By our Laws, and the nature of our Government, where any person owes another a Sum of Money, and refuses or neglects to pay it, the Person to whom the Debt is owing has a Right to take and imprison his Debtor, and keep him in confinement till he pays the money, or makes satisfaction for it, and it is not in my Power to prevent it. This happens to be the case with your Interpreter, Davison, who owing a considerable Sum of Money to one Callender, he has taken and confined him. I am very sorry for it; but for the Reason I have mentioned to you, it is not in my Power to redress it."

With which answer they expressed themselves well satisfied.

Then the Governor proceeded:

"Brethren:

"I have considered what you said to Coneghtoghery, with respect to your Apprehensions of there being Danger of some Mischief happening, if you shall be placed on Connestogoe Manor, near the Connestogoe Indians, by Quarrels arising between your young Men and theirs, and that thro' their Heat and Indiscretion, if placed too near together, some Blood may be Spilt amongst them, which it may not be in your Power to prevent; and therefore, I leave it to your option, whether you will reside on that Manor, at a proper Distance from the Connestogoe Indians, or you will chuse to go to Pennsbury, another Manor of our Proprietaries, situated on this River, about twenty miles above the City, where you may remain safe and well provided for till Scarroyady returns, when further Measures will be taken for disposing of you to your Satisfaction.

"But if you shall rather chuse to be on the Manor of Connestogoe, I will take care to order a proper Provision to be made for your Residence there, and for your Journey, and send a sufficient Guard along with you to protect you from the Insults and Abuses that you might meet with from the rash, dissolute, unthinking People amongst us, who, paying no Regard to my Advice and Orders, and not making a proper Distinction between our Friends and Enemy Indians, may fall upon and attempt to do you some Injury in your Journey."

And the said Indians, after taking some Time to consider and consult together on the Governor's said Proposal, acquainted the Governor that they chose rather to be sent to Pennsbury, than to the Manor of Connestogoe.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Saturday the 13th March, 1756.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Richard Peters,	John Mifflin,	Esquires.
Lyndford Lardner,	Thomas Cadwalader,	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor's Order and Regulation for forming the Militia Companies into Regiments were read, approved, and order'd to be entered as follows:

[L. S.] "*By the Honoble. ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania and Counties of New Castle, Kent, and Sussex, upon Delaware,*

"*Whereas*, in Pursuance of the Act of General Assembly of the said Province, intitled 'An Act for the ordering and regulating

Extract of a Letter from His Excellency
Sir Charles Hardy to His Excellency
General Shirley dated March 17th 1756.

Extract from Gov. Hardy's Letter to General S. 17th March 1756

I have the favour of your Excellency's Letter of the 8th with the Papers inclos'd, & immediately lay'd the Resolve of the General Court before the Assembly for increasing the number of Men before agreed to 3500 inclusive of Officers.

I have now the pleasure of sending to you the Resolves of the Assembly of this Province, by wch your Excellency will observe they have made an Addition of 715 Men to their first Resolve; & tho' it is now thought necessary to employ 400 for the Defence of the Western Frontiers, it is intended if Affairs with the Indians should be accommodated by the Interposition of the six Nations, who have given Sir William Johnson the strongest Assurances, that these 400 shall also be employ'd in the Expedition: I shall cause all possible Dispatch in raising our Forces, & in the mean time send to Albany Provisions to be transported to the two Forts.

The Proportion of Ordnance Stores, your Excellency has sent me, must be a general Charge to the Provinces concern'd in the Expedition; you may be assur'd nothing shall be wanting on my part in forwarding this part of the Service.

I am glad your Excellency's Assembly has taken so judicious Measures for the transportation of their Provisions & Stores to Lake George; their Instructions, if well executed, is the only effectual Method of forwarding this part of the Service.

The Impress Warrant, your Excellency desires for Mr Stevenson, I have order'd.

I congratulate your Excellency on the good Disposition of the Indians from the Result of Sir William Johnson's Meeting (whose Proceedings you have) I think we may expect great Service from them this Year.

Copy Examined
pr Thos Clarke Depty Secry

Pennsylvania.1756.

At a Council held in the Council Chamber Saturday the 27th March 1756

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

James Hamilton
Richard Peters
Benjamin Chew
Robert Strettle
John Mifflin
Thomas Cadwalader } Esquires

Joseph Fox
John Hughes
Evan Morgan } Esquires, Commiſsioners

Indians

Scarroyady
Andrew Montour
The Belt of Wampum
Jagrea
Jonathan
Moses
Aroas
Newcastle
Seneca George
The Broken Thigh
The Fire Poker
The Thick Leg
A Mohock who talks Cherokee Language

Daniel Clause
George Croghan } Interpreters

Scarroyady, Speaker.

Scarroyady and Andrew Montour the Two Indian Meſsengers who were dispatched by this Government in December last, with Meſsages to the several Tribes of Indians, living on the Waters of Sasquehannah, and thence to the Onondago Council, returned to this City by Way of Albany and New York, on Sunday last; and brought with them Moses and Jonathan Cayanguileguoa and his Wife, who were miſsing, and thought to have been killed by the Enemy Indians, and likewise a Mohock Indian, who talks the Cherokee Language, that he may be useful, in case the Colonies shall as is expected, be favoured with a Number of Warriors of the Cherokee Nation.

On Monday the Sheriff of Lancaster County brought to Town the Indian, who before the Defeat of General Braddock, lived at Aucquick, and since at or near Harris's Ferry.

Thursday night the Governor returned from Newcastle, where he had been to meet his Aſsembly; and yesterday Scarroyady and his Company were entertained at his House; and this morning was, at their Instance, appointed for the hearing of the Report of their Journey.

The Governor ordered the Interpreter to acquaint the Indians that he was ready to hear them, and the following Speech was made by Scarroyady.

Brethren;

In December last, Andrew Montour and myself were sent by you to the Six Nation Council, to lay before them the hostile Proceedings of the Delawares and Shawonese, and you may remember that it was debated before we set out, whether we should go by way of Sasquehannah or New York; and the former being thought the best, as it would give us an Opportunity of visiting and talking with the numerous Tribes of Indians who were settled on that River, and its Branches, we were charged with Messages to them, and instructed to find out their Dispositions, and report them to you and to the Six Nations, that they as well as you might know how to act towards them; and this was the Business entrusted to us, and I am now going to relate to you what we have done in it.

Brethren;

We were fortunate enough to find Jonathan Cayanguilequoa, whom you instructed us to enquire for, hunting near Shamokin, and we took him and his Wife with us, designing to send them to you, with an Account of our Proceedings; but for Reasons we shall give you afterwards, we could not safely do it here; and till we came to Wyomink, we found all the Indians against you, and were very often in Danger of losing both our Messages and our Lives; there indeed we found about thirty, some Shawonese, some Mohiccons, and some Six Nations, who were separated from the rest, and determined to adhere to the English, and declared, that they would never put out the Council Fire that had always been burning between them and you, till they should be ordered to do so by the English or the Six Nations; all, except these, that we saw hitherto, were bent upon striking the English, and even here we saw a Party of Warriors, among whom was John Shick Calamy and his Brothers, waiting to be joined by eighty Delawares, with whom they were to set out against the Inhabitants of Pennsylvania; we took John Shick Calamy aside, upbraided him with his Ingratitude to this Government, which had ever been extreamly kind to his Father when alive, and to them and their Families since his Decease, and charged him not to go along with them; but to join those friendly Indians, who disapproved the Measures of the Delawares; he said his going was against his Inclination, and he could not help it; they threatening to kill him if he did not go; but at their instance he did not go with them. The eighty Delaware Warriors arrived as was expected, we offered them a Belt to disuade them from going to War against the English, telling them we were informed they should say that the Hatchet had been sent to them from the Six Nations, which we thought could not be true, I having been but lately with the Six Nations, and hearing nothing of it, and desired, as I was then upon my Journey to Onondago, and was determined to know the Truth, they might desist till my Return; but they with a Stick pushed aside the Belt in a contemptuous Manner; and muttering said in an angry Tone, that they had received the Hatchet from the Six Nations, and as they had killed such Numbers of English, they would continue the War, whilst one of them was alive. They bid me take my Belt, and go with it to the Six Nations, as to them they were Counsellors, and would have nothing to do with it; and as I was informed by one of my Friends, that these Warriors afterwards met in Council, and determined to follow us, and put us to death, and we were advised to stay at Wyomink till the Party went off to War, which we did, and then continued our Journey; and tho, as I said before, we proposed to send Jonathan with Advices to you, yet not believing he could escape these Enemies, we thought it best he should accompany us; we took likewise another Step, seeing our Friends Paxinosa and those thirty that had retreated with him and lived by themselves were surrounded with Enemies, and in great Danger of receiving Mischief from them, as we were Members of the Council of the Six Nations, and in the Execution of a publick Trust from this Government, we took upon us to order these friendly Indians to remove their Council Fire to Onegy, they objected to the doing it during the severe Season of the Winter, and because they had a Sufficiency of Corn to support them thro it, but consented to remove in the Spring, and desired we would inform the People at Otsineangy of it, and speak to them to have Canoes ready against the Time, and come and fetch them; and likewise that we would acquaint the Six Nations of this; to all this we agreed, and gave a Belt, they taking hold of one End, and we of the other, and we left one of our Six Nation Indians with them to see our Orders carried into Execution.

From Wyomink we came to an Indian Town called Asseroghney, twelve miles higher up the River, where were about 20 Indian Delawares, all violently against the English, to whom we said nothing, when we saw the Badness of their Disposition; from Asseroghney in 20 Miles we came to Chinkaning, an Indian Town consisting of about thirty fighting Men, distant from Wyomink about 30 Miles; here we saw a dutch Woman Prisoner and a Child with her; we likewise saw the Delaware Teedyuscung, who was in Philadelphia last Summer, with some Delaware and Nantikoke Indians, and was the Speaker, and with him we saw Jo, the black haird Indian that speaks English, and was his Interpreter; Teedyuscung is made a King or Sachem, he told us that he had sent three English Scalps with Belts to the Senecas, and one Belt to the Oneidas, desiring Assistance, for he expected the English would destroy them, but had not received an Answer to either; and then took out a large Belt of Black Wampum of 13 Rows, which says he I am now going to send to the Six Nations, and as this is the third Time, if they send an Answer well and good, if they do not, I shall know what to do. The first Scalps were sent by a great Warrior, called, in Indian, Orwistogo, in English, cut Finger Peter, whom they met in their Way with a Command of Twenty Indians.

From Chinkanning, we came to Diahoga, situate 50 Miles higher up the Sasquehannah, where were fifty Cabbins, and about 90 grown Men.

Brother,

We aſsure you, that all the Way from Wyomink to Diahoga a day never paſsed, without meeting with some Warriors, six, eight or ten in a Party, and 20 under the Command of cut finger Peter, going after the 80 Warriors, which we saw at Wyomink, and we believe Diahoga is about 80 Miles, by the way we went from Wyomink, and all the Way we met Parties of Delawares going to join the 80 Warriors there; several things occurred to us at Diahoga, but as it grows late, and you may be impatient to be so long kept without your Dinners, I chuse to leave off now, and will, with your Leave, resume my Speech in the Afternoon.

At a Council held in the Afternoon.

Present as before.

Brethren,

I now continue the Relation of our Journey; At Diahoga we met Two Sets of Meſsengers dispatched to the Delawares, at the Instance of Colonel Johnson, on his having received Accounts of their Incursions and Ravages on the Borders of this and the neighbouring Governments; one Set was from the Oneidas and Cayugas, and the other from the Mohawks, and as neither of them understood the Delaware Language, they requested Andrew Montour to be their Interpreter, and deliver their Meſsages to the Delawares of this Town, which he did to this Purport, that the Six Nations were met in Council at Onondago, and having heard from Colo. Johnson of the unbrotherly Behaviour of their Nephews to the English, they had sent to them to command them to desist from further Hostilities, and to order their immediate Attendance at the Council; they added they were drunk, and did not know what they were doing, and should have their Heads shaked till they became sober; they told them further, that the Hole of their Ears was very small, so that nothing that was said by their Uncles could enter, but they were determined to bore a larger in their Ears, and make them hear; in answer to this the Delawares expreſsed their Submiſsion to the Six Nations, and said they would send some of their Chiefs along with them to the Council, which they did, and in the Close of my Narration I shall observe what paſsed in the Council on this Subject.

From Diahoga in 25 Miles, we came to an old Indian Town deserted, called Owegy, the Place which we had ordered our Friends at Wyomink to remove to; in 20 Miles from Owegy, we came to Chughnut, where are seven large Houses, all inhabited by Onondago Indians, and one Delaware Cabbin, we talked with them, and they told us, they heard some dark Rumours, but knew nothing of the Affair of the Delawares; living quietly there, and holding no Correspondence with any but those of the Six Nations; from thence we came in about 5 Miles to Otsincanke, where are 30 Cabbins, and about 60 Men, Nantikokes, Conoys, and Onondagos, and one Shawonese Family; just before we came, they had held a Council, and some of their Chiefs had made up their Bundles, in order to go to Oneida. With these People, who are Friends to the English, we had long Conferences, and addressed them in Form, making Speeches of Condolence for the Death of Friends lost in War, lamented the dark and dangerous Times, and after the usual Ceremonies of opening their Eyes, Ears and Hearts, we delivered a Speech in the Name of this Government, claiming their Friendship and Assistance, and gave them proper Strings at the End of every Speech. In return they condoled with us and you, and returned many Thanks, and said they were satisfied that the Sky, notwithstanding the different Stories that had been told them was clear towards that Part of the Heavens where their Brethren lived, and they were vastly pleased with your Message, and gave four Strings of white Wampum, and four other Strings of white and black. These were delivered in the Name of all the Indians at Otsineange; but the chief Man of the Nanticokes, called Shayanas, in English, Fisher, made a particular Speech, with a large String of Wampum, in which he expressed an hearty Joy at our going on the Part of this Government, with a publick Message to the Six Nations, said he was going there too, and he and the Nanticokes would join their Brethren the English, and desired that each might impart to the other, their respective Business, to which we consented.

From Otsineange, we came about 14 Miles to Oneoquage, where are three small Towns, about 2 miles from one another, inhabited by Oneidas and Tuscororas, they make about 60 or 70 Men; here we found Jonathan Cayanquiloquoa's 3 Daughters, who were all married, and have large Families and live here; of our Arrival here we sent you Advice in a Letter, which the Missionary, Mr. Hawley, was so good as to write for us; from hence in thirty miles we came to Teyonnaderro, or the Fork, the Indian Word signifying the Meeting of the Branches, here are five Cabbins inhabited by the Mohiccons; from hence in 30 Miles we came to Teyoneandakt, where are some Oneidas and Mohiccons, making about 30 fighting Men, who were all gone an hunting; from thence in 60 Miles we came to Caniyenke or Teyeondarago, being the lower Mohock Town, about 2 Miles from Fort Johnson, and 38 from Albany; here we met with an hearty Reception, gave and received mutual Condolences, and the Mohawks of this and the Upper Castle, made us many Profeſsions of their Regard for the English, entreated we would hide nothing from them of what was entrusted to us, and promised to aſsist us with and promote our Busineſs; in Confirmation gave us these two Strings.

Then Scarroyady went into a formal Narration of the Particulars that paſsed at the Treaty held at Fort Johnson, in which he said no more than what is said down, and upon every Article delivered the Strings and Belts, which he had received along with the Answers given by the Indians, viz^{t}. Six Strings of Wampum given by the 6 Nations in Return for the Condolence made them in the joint Name of the Government of Pennsylvania; represented by Scarroyady, and Sir William Johnson, as general Representative of the English.

Four Strings of Wampum given by the 6 Nations in Return to four Strings given by Scarroyady with the usual Addreſses of sweeping the Council Chamber in wiping away the Blood spilt in it.

Five Belts in return for five Belts given by Scarroyady with the Compliments of Condolence for the Loſs of their Warriors in the Action at Lake George, the largest from the Mohawks, next largest from the Oneidas, next biggest from the Onondagos, next from the Cayeugas, and the other from the Nanticokes; they returned Thanks for the Speeches, and were glad the Government of Pennsylvania remembred and observed the Customs and Usage of the Six Nations on these Occasions, and referred to the Minutes of the Treaty.

Nine Strings given by the Six Nations in return for Scarroyady's Strings expreſsing his Joy to see the Six United Nations in Council.

Four Strings with the Answer of the Delawares and Munses that lived at Diahoga and the heads of the Sasquehannah, of which there were ten present.

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at

time Mr. Franklin informed his Honour that he was order'd by the House to acquaint him that they were adjourned to the Fifth Day of April next.

At a Council held in the Council Chamber, Saturday the 27th March, 1756.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

James Hamilton,
Richard Peters,
Benjamin Chew,
Robert Strettell,
John Mifflin,
Thomas Cadwalader, } Esquires.

Joseph Fox,
John Hughes,
Evan Morgan, } Esquires, Commissioners.

Indians:

Scarroyady,
Andrew Montour,
The Belt of Wampum,
Jagrea,
Jonathan,
Moses,
Aroas,
New Castle,
Seneca George,
The Broken Thigh,
The Fire Poker,
The Thick Leg,
A Mohawk who talks Cherokee Language.

Daniel Clause,
George Croghan, } Interpreters.

Scarroyady, Speaker.

Scarroyady and Andrew Montour, the Two Indian Messengers who were dispatched by this Government in December last with Messages to the several Tribes of Indians living on the Waters of Sasquehannah, and thence to the Onondago Council, returned to this City by Way of Albany and New York on Sunday last, and brought with them Moses and Jonathan Cayanquiloquoa and his Wife, who were missing and thought to have been killed by the Enemy Indians, and likewise a Mohock Indian, who talks the Cherokee Language, that he may be useful in case the Colonies shall, as is expected, be favoured with a Number of Warriors of the Cherokee Nation.

On Monday the Sheriff of Lancaster county brought to Town the Indians who before the Defeat of General Braddock lived at Aucquick, and since at or near Harris' Ferry.

Thursday night the Governor returned from New Castle, where he had been to meet his Assembly; and yesterday Scarroyady and his Company were entertained at his House, and this morning was at their Instance appointed for the hearing of the Report of their Journey.

The Governor ordered the Interpreter to acquaint the Indians that he was ready to hear them, and the following Speech was made by Scarroyady:

"Brethren:

"In December last Andrew Montour and myself were sent by you to the Six Nation Council to lay before them the hostile Proceedings of the Delawares and Shawonese; and you may remember that it was debated before we set out whether we should go by way of Sasquehannah or New York, and the former being thought the best, as it would give us an Opportunity of visiting and talking with the numerous Tribes of Indians who were settled on that River and its Branches, we were charged with Messages to them, and instructed to find out their Dispositions and report them to you and the Six Nations, that they as well as you might know how to act towards them; and this was the Business entrusted to us, and I am now going to relate to you what we have done in it.

"Brethren:

"We were fortunate enough to find Jonathan Cayanquiloquoa, whom you instructed us to enquire for, hunting near Shamokin, and we took him and his Wife with us, designing to send them to you with an Account of our Proceedings, but for Reasons we shall give you afterwards, we could not safely do it here, and till we came to Wyomink, we found all the Indians against you, and were very often in Danger of losing both our Messages and our Lives. There indeed we found about thirty, some Shawonese, some Mohiccons, and some Six Nations, who were separated from the rest, and determined to adhere to the English, and declared that they would never put out the Council Fire that had always been burning between them and you till they should be ordered to do so by the English or the Six Nations. All, except these that we saw hitherto, were bent upon striking the English, and even here we saw a Party of Warriors, among whom was John Shick Calamy and his Brothers, waiting to be joined by eighty Delawares, with whom they were to set out against the Inhabitants of Pennsylvania. We took John Shick Calamy aside, upbraided him with his Ingratitude to this Government, which had ever been extreamly kind to his Father when alive, and to them and their Families since his Decease, and charged him not to go along with them, but to join those friendly Indians who disapproved the Measures of the Delawares. He said his going was against his Inclination, and he could not help it, they threatening to kill him if he did not go; but at their instance he did not go with them. The eighty Delaware Warriors arrived as was expected; We offered them a Belt to dissuade them from going to War against the English, telling them we were informed they should say that the Hatchet had been sent to them from the Six Nations, which we thought could not be true, I having been but lately with the Six Nations, and hearing nothing of it, and desired, as I was then upon my

Journey to Onondago, and was determined to know the Truth, they might desist till my Return; but they with a Stick pushed aside the Belt in a contemptuous Manner, and muttering, said in an angry Tone, that they had received the Hatchet from the Six Nations, and as they had killed such Numbers of English they would continue the War whilst one of them was alive. They bid me take my Belt and go with it to the Six Nations, as to them they were Counsellors, and would have nothing to do with it; and as I was informed by one of my Friends that these Warriors afterwards met in Council, and determined to follow us and put us to death, and we were advised to stay at Wyomink till the Party went off to War, which we did, and then continued our Journey; and tho', as I said before, we proposed to send Jonathan with advices to you, yet not believing he could escape these Enemies, we thought it best he should accompany us. We took, likewise, another Step, seeing our Friends Paxinosa and those thirty that had retreated with him and lived by themselves, were surrounded with Enemies, and in great Danger of receiving Mischief from them; as we were Members of the Council of the Six Nations, and in the Execution of a publick Trust from this Government, we took upon us to order these friendly Indians to remove their Council Fire to Owegy; they objected to the doing it during the severe Season of the Winter, and because they had a Sufficiency of Corn to support them thro' it, but consented to remove in the Spring, and desired we would inform the People at Otsineangy of it, and speak to them to have canoes ready against the Time, and come and fetch them; and likewise that we would acquaint the Six Nations of this; to all this we agreed, and gave a Belt, they taking hold of one End, and we of the other, and we left one of our Six Nation Indians with them to see our orders carried into Execution.

"From Wyomink we came to an Indian Town, called Asserughney, twelve miles higher up the River, where were about 20 Indian Delawares, all violently against the English, to whom we said nothing, when we saw the Badness of their Disposition. From Asserughney, in 20 miles, we came to Chinkanning, an Indian Town consisting of about thirty fighting Men, distant from Wyomink about 30 miles. Here we saw a Dutch Woman Prisoner, and a Child with her. We likewise saw the Delaware Teedyuscung, who was in Philadelphia last Summer, with some Delaware and Nantikoke Indians, and was the Speaker; and with him we saw Jo, the black-haired Indian that speaks English, and was his Interpreter. Teedyuscung is made a King, or Sachem. He told us that he had sent three English Scalps with Belts to the Senecas, and one Belt to the Oneidas, desiring Assistance, for he expected the English would destroy them, but had not received an answer to either; and then took out a large Belt of Black Wampum of 13 Rows, 'which,' says he, 'I am now going to send to the Six Nations, and as this is the third Time, if they send an answer, well and good; if they do not, I shall know what to do.' The first Scalps were sent by a great Warrior, called, in Indian, Owistogo; in English, Cut Finger Peter, whom they met in their Way with a Command of Twenty Indians.

"From Chinkanning, we came to Diahogo, situate 50 miles higher up the Sasquehannah, where were fifty Cabbins and about 90 grown Men.

"Brother:

"We assure you that all the way from Wyomink to Diahoga, a day never passed without meeting with some Warriors, Six, eight or ten in a Party, and 20 under the Command of Cutfinger Peter, going after the 80 Warriors which we saw at Wyomink, and we believe Diahoga is about 80 Miles by the way we went from Wyomink, and all the Way we met Parties of Delawares going to join the 80 Warriors there; several things occurred to us at Diahoga, but as it grows late, and you may be impatient to be so long kept without your Dinners, I chuse to leave off now, and will, with your Leave, resume my speech in the Afternoon."

At a Council held in the Afternoon.

Present as before.

"Brethren:

"I now continue the Relation of our Journey; at Diohoga we met Two Sets of Messengers dispatched to the Delawares, at the Instance of Colonel Johnson, on his having received accounts of their Incursions and Ravages on the Borders of this and the neighbouring Governments; one Set was from the Oneidas and Cayugas, and the other from the Mohawks, and as neither of them understood the Delaware Language, they requested Andrew Montour to be their Interpreter, and deliver their Messages to the Delawares of this Town, which he did to this Purport, that the Six Nations were met in Council at Onondago, and having heard from Col. Johnson of the unbrotherly Behaviour of their Nephews to the English, they had sent to them to command them to desist from further Hostilities, and to order their immediate attendance at the Council; they added they were drunk, and did not know what they were doing, and should have their heads shaked till they became sober; they told them further that the Hole of their Ears was very small, so that nothing that was said by their Uncles could enter, but they were determined to bore a larger in their Ears, and make them hear; in answer to this the Delawares expressed their Submission to the Six Nations, and said they would send some of their Chiefs along with them to the Council, which they did, and in the close of my narration, I shall observe what passed in the Council on this Subject.

"From Diahoga in 25 miles, we came to an old Indian Town deserted, called Owegy, the Place which we had ordered our Friends at Wyomink to remove to; in 20 Miles from Owegy we came to Chughnut, where are seven large Houses, all inhabited by Onondago Indians, and one Delaware Cabbin; we talked with them, and they told us they heard some dark Rumours, but knew nothing of the Affair of the Delawares, living quietly there, and holding no correspondence with any but those of the Six Nations. From thence we came in about 5 Miles to Otlincanke, where are 30 Cabbins and about 60 Men, Nantikokes, Conoys, and Onondagos, and one Shawonese Family; just before we came they had held a Council, and some of their Chiefs had made up their Bundles in order to go to Oneida. With these People, who are Friends to the English, we had long Conferences, and addressed them in Form, making Speeches of Condolence for the Death of Friends lost in War, lamented the dark and dangerous Times, and after the usual Ceremonies of opening their Eyes, Ears, and Hearts, we delivered a Speech in the Name of this Government, Claiming their Friendship and Assistance, and gave them proper Strings at the End of every Speech. In return they condoled with us and you, and returned many thanks, and said they were satisfied that the Sky, notwithstanding the different Stories that had been told them, was clear towards that Part of the Heavens where their Brethren lived, and they were vastly pleased with your Message, and gave four Strings of white Wampum and four other Strings of white and black. These were delivered in the Name of all the Indians at Otsineange; but the Chief Man of the Nanticokes, called Skayanas, in English Fisher, made a particular Speech with a large String of Wampum, in which he expressed an hearty Joy at our going on the Part of this Government with a publick Message to the Six Nations, said he was going there too, and he and the Nantikokes would join their Brethren the English, and desired that each might impart to the other their respective Business, to which we consented.

"From Otsineange we came about 14 Miles to Oneoquage, where are three small Towns about 2 miles from one another, inhabited by Oneidas and Tuscororas. They make about 60 or 70 Men; here we found Jonathan Cayanquiloquoa's 3 Daughters, who were all married, and have large Families, and live here. Of our Arrival here we sent you Advice in a Letter which the Missionary, Mr. Hawley, was so good as to write for us; from hence in thirty miles we came to Teyonnoderro, or the Fork, the Indian Word signifying the Meeting of the Branches; here are five Cabbins inhabited by the Mohiccons; from hence in 30 Miles we came to Teyoneandakt, where are some Oneidas and Mohiccons, making about 30 fighting Men, who are all gone an hunting; from thence, in 60 Miles, we came to Caniyeuke, or Teyeondarago, being the lower Mohock Town, about 2 Miles from Fort Johnson and 38 from Albany; here we met with an hearty Reception, gave and received mutual Condolences, and the Mohawks of this and the Upper Castle made us many Professions of their Regard for the English, entreated we would hide nothing from them of what was entrusted to us, and promised to assist us with and promote our Business; in Confirmation gave us these two Strings."

Then Scarroyady went into a formal Narration of the Particulars that passed at the Treaty held at Fort Johnson, in which he said no more than what is said down, and upon every article delivered the Strings and Belts, which he had received along with the Answers given by the Indians, vis't Six Strings of Wampum given by the 6 Nations in Return for the Condolence made them in the joint Name of the Government of Pennsylvania, represented by Scarroyady and Sir William Johnson, as general Representatives of the English.

Four Strings of Wampum given by the 6 Nations, in Return to four Strings given by Scarroyady, with the usual Addresses of sweeping the Council Chamber, in wiping away the Blood spilt in it.

Five Belts in return for five Belts given by Scarroyady, with the Compliments of Condolence, for the Loss of their Warriors in the Action at Lake George; the largest from the Mohawks, next largest from the Oneidas, next biggest from the Onondagos, next from the Cayugas, and the other from the Nanticokes; they returned Thanks for the Speeches, and were glad the Government of Pennsylvania remembered and observed the Customs and Usage of the Six Nations on these Occasions, and referred to the Minutes of the Treaty.

Nine Strings given by the Six Nations, in return for Scarroyady's Strings, expressing his Joy to see the Six United Nations in Council.

Four Strings with the Answer of the Delawares and Munses that lived at Diahoga, and the heads of the Sasquehannah, of which they were ten Present.

At a Council held in the Council Chamber Saturday the 27th March 1756.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor

James Hamilton
Richard Peters
Benjamin Chew
Robert Strettle
John Mifflin
Thomas Cadwallader } Esquires.

Mr. Fox
Mr. Hughes
Mr. Morgan } Commiss.rs

Indians

Scarroyady
Andrew Montour
The Belt of Wampum
Segrea

Jonathan
Moses
Arous
Newcastle
Seneca George

The Broken Thigh
The Fire Poker
The Thick Legg
A Mohock who talks
Cherokee Language.

Daniel Claus
George Croghan } Interpreters

Scarroyady Speaker

The Governor ordered the Interpreter to acquaint the Indians that he was ready to hear them and the following Speech was made by Scarroyady.

Brethren.

In December last Andrew Montour and my self were sent by you to the Six Nation Council to lay before them the Hostile Proceedings of the Delawares and Shawonese, and you may remember that it was debated before we set out whether we should go by the way of Susquahannah or New York and the former being thought the best as it would give us an Opportunity of Visiting and talking with the numerous Tribes of Indians who are settled on that River and its branches we were charged with Messages to them and Instructed to find out their dispositions and report them to you and to the Six Nations that they, as well as you, might know how to Act towards them, this was the

Business instructed to us and I am no going to relate to you what we ha
done in it.

Brethren.

We were fortunate enough to find Jonathan Cayenquilaquoa whom you instructed us to enquire for, hunting near Shamokin and we took him and his Wife with us designing to send him to you with an Account of our proceedings but for reasons we shall give you afterwards we could not safely do it, here and till we came to Wioming we found all the Indians against you and were very often in danger of loseing both our Messages and our Lives, there indeed we found about thirty, some Shawonese, some Mohiccons, and some Six Nations, who were seperated from the rest, and determined to adhere to the English, and declared they would never put out the Council Fire, that had always been burning between them & you, till they should be ordered to do so by the English or the Six Nations. All, except these, that we saw hitherto were bent upon striking the English, and even here we saw a Party of Warriors, among whom was John Shickcalamy and his Brother, waiting to be joined by Eighty Delawares, with whom they were to set out against the Inhabitants of Pennsylvania. We took John Shickcalamy aside, upbraided him with Ingratitude to this Government which had ever been extreamly kind to his Father when alive, and to them and their Families since his decease, and charged him not to go along with them but to join those friendly Indians who disapproved the measures of the Delawares. He said his going was against his Inclination, and he could not help it they threatning to kill him if he did not go. But at their Instance he did not go with them. The eighty Delaware Warriors arrived, as was expected, we offered them a Belt to dissuade them from going to War against the English, telling them we were informed they should say that the Hatchet had been sent to them from the Six Nations, which we thought could not be true, I having been but lately with the Six Nations, and heard nothing of it, and desired, as I was then on my Journey to Onondago and was determined to know the truth, they might desist till my Return, but they with a Stick pushed a

side

the Disposition of [illegible] General

side the Belt in a contemptuous manner and muttering said in an Angry Tone that they had received the Hatchet from the Six Nations, and as they had killed such numbers of the English they would continue the War whilst one of them was alive. they bid me take my Belt and go with it to the Six Nations, as to them they were Warriors and not Councellors, and would have nothing to do with it. and I was informed by one of my friends that these Warriors afterwards met in Council and determined to follow us and put us to Death, and we were advised to stay at Wiomink till the Parties went off to War, which we did; and then continued our Journey. And tho as I said before we proposed to send Jonathan with advices to you, yet not believing he could escape these Enemies we thought it best he should accompany us. We took likewise another Step— being our Friends Packshinosa and those thirty that had retreated with him and who by themselves were surrounded with Enemies and in great Danger of receiving Mischief from them— as we were Members of the Council of the Six Nations and in the Execution of a Publick trust from this Government, we took upon us to order these friendly Indians to remove their Council Fire to Owego— they objected to the doing it during the severe Season of the Winter and because they had a sufficiency of Corn to support them till it, but consented to remove in the Spring and desired we would inform the People at Otsinango of it and speak to them to get Canoes ready against the time and come and fetch them, and likewise that we would acquaint the Six Nations of this. To all which we agreed and gave a Belt they taking hold of one end and we of the other and we left one of our Six Nation Indians with them to see our orders carried into Execution.

From Wiomink we came to an Indian Town called Asseruchnau — — twelve Miles higher up the River where were about twenty Indians Delawares all violently against the English to whom we said nothing when we saw the badness of their Disposition.

From Asseruchnau in twenty Miles we came to Chinkannigh an Indian Town consisting of about thirty fighting Men distant from Wiomink about thirty Miles here we saw a dutch Woman Prisoner and a Child with her; We likewise saw the Delaware Tedyuscung who was in Philadelphia last Summer, with some Delaware and Nanticoke Indians and was the Speaker and with him we saw Jo the Black haird Indian that Speaks English and was his Interpreter. Tedyuscung is made a King or Sachem he told us that he had sent three English Scalps with Belts to the Senecas & one Belt to the Oneidos desiring Assistance, for he expected the English woud destroy them, but had not received an Answer to either, and then took out a large Belt of Black Wampum of thirteen Rows, which says he, I am now going to send to the Six Nations, and as this is the third time if they send an Answer well and good, if they do not I shall know what to do. The first Scalps were sent by a great Indian Warrior called in Indian Owyshtago in English Cut finger Peter whom they met in their way with a Command of twenty Indians.

From Chinkannick we came to Dyahogo Situate fifty Miles higher up the Susquahannah where were fifty Cabbins and about ninety grown Men. Brother we assure you that all the way from Wiomink to Dyahogo a day never passed without meeting with some Warriors Six Eight or ten in a Party and twenty as I said before under the Command of Cut finger Peter going after the Eighty Warriors which we saw at Wiomink, and we believe Dyahogo is about eighty Miles by the way we went from Wiomink and all the way, we met Parties of Delawares going to join the Eighty Warriors there. Several things occurred to us at Dyahogo but as it grows late and you may be impatient to be so long kept without your Dinners I chuse to leave off now and will with your leave resume my Speech in the afternoon.

At a Council held in the Afternoon
Present as before.

Brethren.

I now continue the relation of our Journey, At Dyahogo we met two Setts of Messengers dispatched to the Delawares at the Instance of Colonel Johnson on his having

Received accounts of their Incursions and Ravages on the [illegible] of this and the Neighbouring Governments - one Set was from the Oneidos and Cayugas, and the other from the Mohocks, and [illegible] neither of them understood the Delaware Language they [illegible] Andrew Montour to be their Interpreter and deliver the Me[illegible] to the Delawares of this Town which he did to this purport - [illegible] the Six Nations were met in Council at Onondago and hav[illegible] heard from Colonel Johnson of the unbrotherly behaviour [illegible] their Nephews to the English they had sent to them to [illegible] them to desist from further Hostilities, and to order their [illegible]ate attendance at the Council - they added they were drunk [illegible] did not know what they were doing and should have their [illegible] Shaket till they became Sober, they told them further that [illegible] of their Ears was very small so that nothing that was sa[illegible] their Uncles could enter in, but they were determined to bo[illegible] large hole in their Ears and make them hear, In Answer [illegible] Delawares expressed their Submission to the Six Nations [illegible] said they would send some of their Chiefs along with the[illegible] the Council which they did, and in the close of my Narra[illegible] I shall observe what passed at the Council on this Subject -

From Tyahogo in twenty five Miles we came to an [illegible] Indian Town deserted called Owego the place which we had [illegible] our friends at Wioming to remove to.

In twenty Miles from Owego we came to Chughnut [illegible] are seven large Houses all inhabited by Onondago Indian[illegible] one Delaware Cabbin. we talked with them, and they to[illegible] they heard some dark rumors but knew nothing of the af[illegible] of the Delawares, living quietly there and holding no corr[illegible]ence with any but those of the Six Nations.

From thence we came in about five Miles to Otsaningo where are thirty Cabbins and about Sixty Men Nanticoke Conoys, and Onondagoes and one Shawonese Family. Just [illegible] we came they had held a Council and some of their Chiefs [illegible] made up their Bundles in order to go to Oneido. With [illegible]

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received accounts of their Incursions and Ravages on the Borders of this and the Neighbouring Governments - one Set was from the Oneidos and Cayugas and the other from the Mohocks, and as neither of them understood the Delaware Language they requested Andrew Montour to be their Interpreter and deliver the Messages to the Delawares of the Town which he did to this purport - that the Six Nations were met in Council at Onondago and having heard from Colonel Johnson of the unbrotherly behaviour of their Nephews to the English they had sent to them to command them to desist from further Hostilities, and to order their immediate attendance at the Council - they added they were drunk and did not know what they were doing and should have their heads Shaked till they became sober, they told them further that the hole of their Ears was very small so that nothing that was said by their Uncles could enter, but they were determined to bore a large hole in their Ears and make them hear, In Answer to this the Delawares expressed their Submission to the Six Nations and said they would send some of their Chiefs along with them to the Council which they did, and in the close of my Narration I shall observe what passed at the Council on this Subject.

From Cyahoga [illegible] twenty five Miles we came to an Old Indian Town deserted called Owego the place which we had ordered our friends at Wioming to remove to.

In twenty Miles from Owego we came to Chughnut where are seven large Houses inhabited by Onondago Indians and one Delaware Cabbin - we talked with them, and they told us they heard some dark rumors but knew nothing of the affair of the Delawares, living quietly there and holding no correspondence with any but those of the Six Nations.

From thence we came in about five Miles to Otsaningo where are thirty Cabbins and about Sixty Men Nanticokes Conoys and Onondagoes and one Shawonese Family. Just before we came they had held a Council and some of their Chiefs had made up their Bundles in order to go to Oneido - With these

People who are friends of the English we had long Conferences, we addreſsed them in form making Speeches of Condolence for the Death of Friends lost in War lamented the Dark and Dangerous Times and after the usual Ceremonies of opening their Eyes, Ears. and Hearts we delivered a Speech in the Name of this Government claiming their Friendship and Aſsistance and gave them proper Strings at the end of every Speech, In return they Condoled with us and you and returned many thanks, and said they were satisfied that the Sky notwithstanding the different Stories that had been told them was clear towards that part of the Heavens where there Brethren lived and they were vastly pleased with your Meſsage and they gave four Strings of white Wampum and four other Strings of white and black. These were delivered in the Name of all the Indians at Otsaningo but the Chief Man of the Nanticokes called Skaanas in the English the Fisher made a Particular Speech with a large String of Wampum, in which he expressed an hearty Joy at our going on the part of this Government with a Publick Meſsage to the Six Nations said he was going there too, and he and the Nanticocks would join their Brethren the English and desired that each might impart to the other their respective Buſineſses to which we consented,

From Otsaningo we came about fourteen Miles to Oneoquage where are three small Towns about two Miles from one another inhabited by Oneidoes and Tuscororas they make about Sixty or Seventy fighting Men. Here we found Jonathan Cayenquiloquoa's three Daughters who are all Married and have two Families and live here. Of our Arrival here we sent you advice in a Letter which the Miſsionary Mr Hawley was so good as to Write for Us.

From thence in Thirty Miles we came to Teonaarndacht where are some Oneidoes and Mohiccons making about Thirty fighting Men who were all gone a Hunting.

From thence in Sixty Miles we came to Canyſinga or Tionderego being the Lower Mohock Castle about two Miles from Fort Johnson and Thirty eight from Albany, here

we

the Diſpoſition.

General

we met with an hearty reception, gave and received mutal Condolences and the Mohocks of this and the Upper Castle made Us many Professions of their Regard for the English, entreated we would hide nothing from them of what was entrusted to Us and Promised to assist Us with and promote our Business. In Confirmation gave us these two Strings.

Then Scarroyady went into a formal Narration of the Particulars that passed at the Treaty held at Fort Johnson in which he said no more than what is there set down, and after every Article delivered the Strings and Belts which he had received along with the Answers given by the Indians Viz:- Six Strings of Wampum given by the Six Nations in Return for the Condolences made them in the joint Name of the Government of Pennsylvania represented by Scarroyady and Sir William Johnson as general Representative of the English.

Four Strings of Wampum given by the Six Nations in Return to four Strings given by Scarroyady with the usual addresses of sweeping the Council Chamber and Wipeing away the Blood Spilt in it.

Five Belts in return for five Belts given by Scarroyady with his Compliments of Condolence for the loss of their Warriors in the Action at Lake George the largest from the Mohocks, next largest from the Oneidos, next biggest from the Onondagos next from the Cayagas and the other from the Nanticokes, they returned thanks for the Speeches, and were glad the Government of Pennsylvania remembered and observed the Customs and Usage of the Six Nations on these occasions. and referred to the Minutes of the Treaty.

Five Strings given by the Six Nations in return for Scarroyady's Strings expressing his Joy to see the Six United Nations in Council.

Four Strings with the Answer of the Delawares and Munses that lived at Dyaoga and the heads of the Susquahan of which there were Ten Present.

Scarroyady then mentioning the Names of the Nations present said he asked them all particularly whether the Delawares had taken up the Hatchet with their Privity and Consent, and if not whether they had been made acquainted with the reasons of it. and they all declared positively that this mad Step of the Delawares was taken without their apprizing them in the least of it. and that they were entirely ignorant of the matter. Being preſsed again and again to communicate what they knew at last said, they could Aſsign no other Reasons than that the French had corrupted the Delawares by Presents, and after the Defeat of General Braddock they were greatly encouraged by the Plunder and Riches got there, and further that they were told the English had neglected the Delawares, and had not taken due care to cultivate a friendship with them and in token of their ſincerity they give this String.

He said further that in his Journey he had Spoke with ſeveral Tribes of Indians who were ſtill hearty for the English and that they were Poor and if not better attended to and taken more notice of they would be lyable to be ſeduced by the French who gave large Presents and fine Cloaths to the Indians.

He added that he had often recommended it to this Government to be kind to the Nations settled upon the Suſquahannah as well high up as nearer the Settlements and now repeated his recommendations saying that if they were ſtill neglected he apprehended very bad consequences.

It growing dark he said he had more to say but would defer it to Monday or whenever the Governor would please to appoint.

N.B. the Death of Moses and the Sickneſs of the other Indians prevented him from finishing his discourse till Saturday the third of April, when he proceeded as follows

Brethren.

You desired us in our Instructions to enquire the particular reasons aſsigned by the Delawares and Shawonese for their acting in the manner they do against this Province: I have done it and all I could get from the Indians is, that they heard them say their Brethren the English had accused them very guilty of joining with the French after Colonel Washington's defeat, and if they coud charge them when they were innocent, they coud do no more if they were guilty; This turned them against their Brethren, and now indeed the English have good reason for any Charge they may make against them for they are very heartily their Enemies.

Brethren.

I promiſed to tell you what paſsed at the Onondago Council between the Six Nations and the Delawares Deputies and according to information given me by one of the Members present is as follows. The Council very sharply reprehended the Delawares for their Cruel and unbrotherlike Behaviour against the English and earnestly urged them to repent and desist. And the two Delawares in their Justification spoke thus to the Council.

Unckles

Your Complaints of us are very true and just but we hope you will likewise hear what reasons we have for our Behaviou against the English. When we lived among them they behaved very ill to us: they used us like Dogs, they often saw us pinched with want and Starving and woud take no Pity of us; sometimes we were in Liquor a fault which you are sensible we cannot always avoid as we cannot govern our selves when we come where Liquor is; when we were in this condition they turned us out of their Houses and beat us so that when we came to be sober we were not able to get up; and at this very time they have taken up and put into Prison the few Straglers of our People that are yet among them. Now Uncles can this be called Brotherly Treatment? dont you immagine such usage must raise hatred in our Hearts? and have we not good reason for what we are doing? we dont doubt if we woud let things go on as they have done but they would subdue us and make Slaves of us. Nevertheleſs Uncles we listen to what you told us we thank you for your advice and since you insist upon our leaving off we will take what you have ſaid to us, and carry it to our Nations, and ſtop them from Proceeding. We will tell the Warriors and every one else it is your pleasure that we ſhoud not go to War against the English, not a Man ſhall paſs thro' our Town but we will call him to us and make known to him your commands delivered in Council.

In their reply the Six Nations expreſsed great Resentment at the Delawares they threatned to shake them by the head saying they were drunk and out of their ſenses and did not Consider the Consequence of their ill behaviour, and aſsured them that if they did not perform what they promised ~~they~~ they ſhould be ſeverly chastized; Whereupon the Delawares again Promised to acquaint their Nations with every thing that Paſsed and to send their answer by Expreſs.

Brother.

This I hope will be a Sufficient Answer to that part of your Instructions in which you desire us to enquire and find out the true reasons of the Delawares turning against us, as to the main Buſineſs we had in Charge to lay before the Six Nations I need not be particular as I have delivered the several Strings and Belts given Us, and every thing done there is put in the Treaty which Colonel Johnson sent you by Mr Clause, by this you will ſee that the Deputies of the Six United Nations are gone into the Delaware Country in order to have a Meeting with the Delawares there, and after every thing proposed is agreed upon by those Deputies and our Nephews you will have their full and final Answer.

A True Copy

7 June 1756 Richard Peters
Secretary

on 21st 4mo: present J Dixon. Ab Fr. a Morris A Powel – Ms. J Z. Zadoucy

First acting, requesting them to attend to what I was going to say to them in the name of my Brethren being a matter of Importance.

~~Also~~ Brethren.

The opportunity we enjoyed of yr Company the other day has given ~~us~~ great satisfaction, and I find you retain so Lively & affectionate remembrance of Wm Penn our Forefather & the friendship that subsisted between him & your Fathers — it has rejoiced ~~many~~ our Brethren who have heard it & some of them are now come here to see you, for tho' we have long layn hid & almost bury'd by the great Numbers of others, who are come hither, many of whom are men of different Principles from ours, yet we can inform you there [illegible] a great Number ~~in~~ in this City scattered in diff. parts of this Province & some [illegible] down on the frontiers, where a great deal of blood has been shed, who are the children of Wm Penn & the first Settlers, that are Men of the Same peaceable Principles & who Love you as our Brethren — We shall now arise & show ourselves to you — for as we are sorrowful that differences have arisen between yr Cousins the Delawares & our people We are desirous of using our Endeavours to Restore peace, & if they will stop from doing further Mischief We shall be ready to stand between them ~~[illegible]~~ & the Government that they may be forgiven & as a proof of our sincerity we give you this Belt (a Large white Belt) which you see is white without any mixture, as our Love & friendship to you is. & as it is made of many [illegible] pieces, wch were small & of ~~so~~ little weight or strength before they were knit together but is now strong & firm, so we ~~[illegible]~~ when collected & united together shall appear to ~~you~~ our Brethren & we desire you by this belt to Lett both the six Nations & Delawares Know that we have not forgot the Love & Kindness of their Fathers to ours & as we are men of ye same ~~Peaceable~~ principles we are ready to give our assistance in any Manner we can as far as to stop the Bloodshed & to open a way for a Treaty in which all misunderstandings may be truly opened & when the grounds thereof are known we will Endeavour to see them removed in every respect — Gave a large white belt

By ye Second String Desir'd them, as they are ~~wise~~ wise ~~men~~ ~~& of more~~ ~~Experienc'd~~ to Consider & advise us in what manner we may be able soonest to putt a stop to ye Shedding blood, for as many of our Friends, ~~for~~ of ye Same Principles with us, for whom they express'd so much regard, liv'd in ye N.W. Parts of ye Province & some in ye very frontiers with something be done soon they may be destroy'd among others — Therf for their Sakes in particular as well as of our Countrymen in ~~general~~ we are concerned to have some Speedy Stop putt to the Shedding blood.

and that you had allways Spoke in their Language & acted agreeable to their Principles

Substance of an occasional Conversation at Isr. ~~[illegible]~~ with the Indian Kaghswooghtaxiyonde or

On the 19th Novr. 1756. Scarroyady, an Indian Chief, the old Belt Jonathan ~~Jonathan [illegible] for [illegible]~~ Shonoqtato a Cayuga Warrior with Conrad Weiser Andrew Montour & Daniel Claus [illegible] and ~~[illegible]~~ I. Pemberton ~~at [illegible] Pemberton's [illegible] after dinner [illegible] himself to the following [illegible]~~

S.B. Interpreters I am glad to see you here & to have an opportunity of informing you that as Wm. Penn & our Fathers ~~at the~~ who first settled ~~ment~~ of this Province were Men of Peace & against all Wars, ~~[illegible]~~ so there are still many of us their Children ~~[illegible]~~ who hold ~~[illegible]~~ of the same peaceable Principles & ~~[illegible]~~ we hope there are many of yr. People who retain a love & regard for yr. old friends ~~[illegible]~~ formerly maintained, differences have arisen & your Cousins the Delawares have shed the blood of many of our People ~~[illegible]~~

Ansr. We rejoice to hear that the Spirit of Wm. Penn is yet alive, it is ~~so long~~ since we saw it or heard about it, that we thought it was quite departed ~~I we know the six Nations will be glad to hear it. for~~ we are glad to hear it, for we love the peaceable Principle [illegible] with all mankind, were of that Mind, knowing it to be the way to prevent any Cause of Contention ~~[illegible]~~ between us & the English & take away the Occasion of War.

S.B. It gives me great ~~pleasure to~~ hear ~~that~~ what you say & that the Remembrance of Wm. Penn is so dear to you, my grandfather & great grandfather were his Particular friends & Councellors, & men of his Principles, that is to live in Love & good will to all men, and I am of the same Principles & there are many of my friends, who tho' not concerned in the Government have good Estates in it & wish its Welfare & prosperity really love & respect you, but we are made very sorrowful by the ~~bad~~ Conduct of your Cousins the Delawares who contrary to the friendship they formerly had for us, have done very wickedly & shed the blood of many of our Brethren, without any Cause given them that we know of.

Ansr. What you now say to me I take to be said to all the Nations & shall answer in their Name. We are glad to hear there are some People left of the Peaceable Principle ~~[illegible] but the six Nations~~ & we wish it had been told us sooner, for we are sure, that tho' our Cousins ~~[illegible]~~ have struck the blow they would not hurt any of you, if they knew you

~~Ansr~~ C.W. We wish the Delawares could be ~~made~~ restrain'd from doing any more mischief & the greatest proof we can give of our love & regard for one another is by Convincing them of their bad Conduct to engage them to return to their Allegiance ~~to the Government~~ for as this Government is [illegible] highly displeased & is determined to punish &c they therefore pursue the Warr agt. them, no Doubt but many of them will suffer for their folly & wickedness now if you will use your hearty Endeavours ~~with them~~, we will likewise stand between them & our Government, for as we Consider they have no King & their old Women are gone we look on them as Children, who do not know what they are doing, therefore if they will repent, We will do all we can to have them forgiven.

Answr. We attend to what you have said & ~~will~~ [illegible] fast close his hands & ~~[illegible]~~ keep it Close, till we come to the Six Nations & then ~~we will lay it quite~~ open in a strait Line opening his hands with Sincerity & ~~setting~~ his fingers ~~strait & a file~~ before them in a strait Line & it will be good hearty & ~~we~~ Know, & relate it [illegible] it, it will make their hearts melt ~~their hearts~~.

Your Peaceable Principle is noble & He that is above overall will Regard & take Care of those, who Keep to it.

They were then told that some of ~~my~~ our Brethren in town would be pleased with an opportunity of seeing them & of ~~being~~ making ourselves more known to them.

I am glad to see you here & to have this opportunity of
informing you that as Wm Penn our Father in the
settlement of this Province acted on the principles of Love
& true friendship to ~~[illegible]~~ Fathers so many of us ~~[illegible]~~ who retain these
Principles are now ~~deeply concerned~~ very sorrowfull that some of those who
have been your Brethren & our Brethren have acted so contrary
to that Love & friendship they formerly had for us & have shed
the Blood of many of our Brethren in this Province. We wish
~~they could be restrained from doing more mischief & made sensible of the~~
~~injustice of their Conduct towards us~~
Conf:r We rejoice to hear that the Spirit of Wm Penn is yet alive,
it is so long since we saw it. that we thought it was quite
departed & we have ~~our Brethren~~ these Natives would be
glad to hear it.

#

~~It~~ gives us great pleasure to hear that the remembrance of Wm
Penn is so dear to you, my Grandfather & great grandfather
were his Particular Friends & Counsellors & [illegible] were of the [illegible] principles
[illegible] we ought to live in love [illegible]
that is agai[illegible] [illegible] believing [illegible] & thereby many of us [illegible]
mankind [illegible] the same principles [illegible] good [illegible] in it & [illegible] be glad
tho' we are [illegible] in the Government [illegible] to manifest to you, that we really Love & respect you as
our Brethren, & as our friends, the Delawares, have [illegible]
very [illegible] proof of your regard for one
another [illegible] by [illegible] their misconduct & engaging
them to acknowledge it & to return to their duty & allegiance to the Government

&c. &c.

We attend to what you have said, ~~&~~ I will look it up safely hold it fast (shutting his hand close) & keep it close, till I come to the six Nations & then I will lay it quite open to them, (opening his hand & throwing it strait forward & ~~[illegible]~~ laying a pipe strait before him) & I know when they hear it, it will melt their hearts.

The Conduct of ye Delawares has been very bad, & this Government cannot but be highly displeased & is determined to punish them & therefore has declared warr & no doubt many of them will suffer for their folly & wickedness to our people, but as we consider they have no King & their wisemen are gone we look upon them as silly Children & if they will repent & amend we will do all we can to have as many of them forgiven as we can say anything for. We are glad to hear there are some People of your peaceable principles, we wish we had been told it sooner ~~[illegible]~~ & that you had always spoke & acted agreeable to the principles for we can ~~[illegible]~~ ~~[illegible]~~ that tho' our Brethren have struck the blow, they would not have hurt any of yours if they knew you, for if you had kept them constantly under your Eyes, they would still have been yr Children #

Your peaceable Principle is good & He that is above will regard & take care of those who ~~[illegible]~~ keep to ~~that~~ it.

#

the Indians [illegible] Reply

the Interpreter explained this — that the Indians [illegible] that we had too much neglected cultivating our friendship with the Indians, & that if we had been more conversant with them &c. The Delawares wd have been more subject to ye 6 Nations, says, that ~~they~~ now they are grown stiff like a strong tree & not easily bow'd, but that if we had conversed with them &c with ye kindness our fore fathers did & manifested that we had nothing but love & good will in our hearts they might have been kept under our notice & direction [illegible] better & that as ye 6 Nations ~~so~~ we had been to Neglig[illegible]

look as we ~~the~~ would & when
is to be useful on it better

agreat number of years have from time to time come over here & people ~~of and~~ sent from ye first settlers. we are very glad to hear we shall encrease your voice to ye six nations, & add strength to it & they will be very glad there are yet some people left of ye same generation of ye first settlers who we have heard nothing of for a great number of years.

2nd.. Br: as I told you to day that I would take ye request into my hand & carry it to ye 6 N. so am glad of this order to repeat it we are glad to have ~~an~~ order of Peace & agree with Wm Penn. we shall send two of our Br to them directly to inform them that Wm Penn's Children have made propositions of Peace to them (~~not [illegible]~~ not as All ye of Governm.) & that you may look upon it as ~~aga~~ what will be agreeable to them—

3.. Brethr nothing an ~~[illegible]~~ stand, we cod not leave you. Here ~~[illegible]~~ before ~~[illegible]~~ to any of the Brd are ~~[illegible]~~ they are now our enemies ~~[illegible]~~ and there we will go & require their leave to make ye road clear. & we shall send these three messengers & if they come back they may be killed they ~~may~~ bring an tokens of peace ~~[illegible]~~ it may please the most High that they bring tokens of peace

4th Brethren—

As we told you before these three men have undert. to go wch we send [illegible] if it may please ye most high to send them back wch we hope [illegible] & if they come back take notice of them as for me ~~[illegible]~~. as you have now undertaken to renew the chain of friendship as formerly subsisted between Wm Penn's Children and keep this chain bright to future generations — Gave a String

Dont take it amiss we answer ye with [illegible] a belt of Wamp. we look upon the Belt you gave us as belongs

~~[illegible]~~ Ditto

we are glad to hear what ~~they~~ you have said to us. we believe it to be spoken in Sincerity & what you really think &c.

— We think it necessary in generall in matters of Importance to take time to deliberate ~~but as they~~ according to the good method practised by you but ~~but~~ as we believe ~~they~~ you have opend the real Sentiments of yr hearts to us. we can readily answer them. tho ~~we~~ Receive it with great pleasure. & whatever may happen we shall Indeavour on all occasions hereafter to Demonstrate our love & regard to ~~[illegible]~~ you.

to wch they gave their usual Expression of Approbation.

Then Scarroyady
Address'd himself to ye Interpreters Said

~~Having~~ as we are obliged to make use of ~~your~~ ears & tongues we desire you to be hearty and Sincere in attending to the business now undertaken & to join with us ~~[illegible]~~ in carrying the same into execution; —

— As you are now abt. departing from the City & ye weather grows warm we give you a few handkts. to wipe the sweat from your faces, & a few [illegible] ~~[illegible]~~ as they did it & distributed to Each present ~~[illegible]~~ pieces for some of yr ~~[illegible]~~ brethren in town who are ~~[illegible]~~ prevented by ~~[illegible]~~ of being with yr.

~~[illegible] to [illegible] (Ackanondowa) that you told us tother day by ye string of wampum.~~

Messrs. Wm. Castle [illegible] Jogeen & Mr. Logan.

As they had mentd. ~~they~~ they thought that we ought all to apply to the [illegible]

St.
Scarroyada Br. Onas. We are here both Councr: & Warriors & Women we return you many thanks for what you have said to us also for what you have given us. & shall be glad we could make use of words to Convince them of you that we love & regard you —

At a Council held in the Council Chamber Saturday 3.^d April 1756.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

James Hamilton	Richard Peters	Esquires
William Till	Robert Strettle	
William Logan	Benjamin Shoemaker	
Lynford Lardner	Benjamin Chew	
Thomas Cadwalader	John Mifflin	

The Commiſsioners

The Indians

Daniel Clause, Interpreter.

The Minutes of the preceding Councils were read and approved.

On Monday last some neceſsary Busineſs called the Governor into Jersey, and he returned yesterday morning. Since the last Council several of the Indians, were seized with a Peripneumony, and Doctor Græme and Doctor Cadwalader were desired to attend them. Moses the Mohock was in particular seized in a most violent manner on Sunday, and dyed on Monday morning. Three Members of Council made the usual Condolences, to Scarroyady and the other Indians, gave Ten Strowds, Ten Shirts and a Piece of Handkerchiefs to cover his Grave; and as he was a Warrior, he was buried in an handsome Manner and with military Honours, the Council, the Commiſsioners, the Officers of the Militia and the principal Inhabitants of the Town attending the Funeral.

The Bill, intituled, An Act for regulating the Officers and Soldiers commiſsionated and raised by the Governor for the Defence of the Province was read, and referred to the Attorney General.

Then Scarroyady delivered the Remainder of his Report in these Words.

Brother,

You desired us in your Instructions to enquire the particular Reasons aſsigned by the Delawares and Shawonese, for their acting in the manner they do against this Province; I have done it, and all I could get from the Indians is that they heard them say their Brethren the English had accused them very falsly of joining with the French after Colonel Washington's Defeat, and if they would charge them when they were innocent, they could do no more if they were guilty; this turned them against their Brethren; and now indeed the English have good Reason for any Charge they may make against them; for they are very heartily their Enemies.

Brethren,

I promised to tell you what paſsed at the Onondago Council between the Six Nations and the Delaware Deputies; and according to the Information given me by one of the Members present, it is as follows vizt. The Council very sharply reprehended the Delawares for their cruel and unbrotherly Behaviour against the English, and earnestly urged them to repent and desist; and the Two Delawares in their Justification spoke thus to the Council.

Uncles,

Your Complaints of us are very true and just; but we hope you will likewise hear what Reasons we have for our Behaviour against the English. When we lived among them they behaved very ill to us, they used us like Dogs, they often saw us pinched with want, and starving, and would take no Pity of us; sometim we were in Liquor; a Fault which you are sensible we can not always avoid, as we cannot govern ourselves when we come where Liquors are; when we were in this Condition, they turned us out of their Houses and beat us, so that when we came to be sober, we were not able to get up; and at this very Time they have taken up and put into Prison the few Straglers of our People that are yet among them; Now Uncles, can this be called Brotherly Treatment? dont you imagine such Usage must raise Ill Nature in our Hearts? And have we not good Reason for what we are doing? We dont doubt, if we would let things go on as they have done, but they would subdue us, and make Slaves of us. Nevertheleſs Uncles, we listen to what you told us; we thank you for your Advice; and since you insist upon our leaving off, we will take what you have said to us and carry it to our Nations, and stop them from proceeding. We will tell the Warriors, and every one else, it is your Pleasure we should not go to War against the English; not a Man shall paſs thro our Town, but we will call him to us, and make known to him your Commands delivered in Council.

The Six Nations in their Reply expreſsed great Resentment at the Delawares; they threatened to shake them by the Head, saying, they were drunk and out of their Senses, and did not consider the Consequence of their ill Behaviour, and aſsured them, that if they did not perform what they promised, they should be severely chastized; whereupon the Delawares again promised to acquaint their Nations with every thing that paſsed, and to send their Answer by Expreſs.

Brother,

This I hope will be a sufficient Answer to that Part of your Instructions, in which you desire us to enquire and find out the true Reasons of the Delawares turning against us; as to the main Buſineſs we had in Charge to lay before the Six Nations I need not be particular, as I have delivered the several Strings and Belts given us, and every thing done there is put in the Treaty which Colo. Johnson sent you by Mr. Claus; by this you will see, that Deputies of the United Nations are gone into the Delaware Country, in order to have a Meeting with the Delawares there; and after every thing proposed is agreed upon by those Deputies and our Nephews, you will have their full and final Answer.

Number of Indians at the Treaty at Mount Johnson.

Senecas	46
Cayugas	29
Onondagos	34
Oneidas	84
Tuscororas	34
Canajorees	106
Mohawks	100
Oghquagis and Shaniadaradighs	66
Schoharies	26
Chenosees	15
	540
Scarroyady's Family	5
Mr. Montours	2
Nickus the Oneidas	8
Ruth the Tuscororas	6
Cayanquiloquons	9
6 Mahickaners from Shenewesys	6
2 Oneida families separate	10
	586.

The Officers of Eight Companies near the City of Philadelphia praying by a Committee to be regimented, it was agreed to, and the Governor ordered the Commissions for the Field Officers to be made out, agreeable to the Return.

At a Council held in the Council Chamber, Saturday 3d April, 1756.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

James Hamilton,	Richard Peters,	Esquires.
William Till,	Robert Strettle,	
William Logan,	Benjamin Shoemaker,	
Lynford Lardner,	Benjamin Chew,	
Thomas Cadwalader,	John Mifflin,	

The Commissioners.

The Indians.

Daniel Clause, Interpreter.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

On Monday last some necessary Business called the Governor into Jersey, and he returned yesterday morning. Since the last Council, several of the Indians were seized with a Peripneumony, and Doctor Græme and Doctor Cadwalader were desired to attend them; Moses the Mohock, was in particular seized in a most violent manner on Sunday, and dyed on Monday morning. Three Members of Council made the usual Condolences to Scarroyady and the other Indians; gave Ten Strouds, Ten Shirts, and a Piece of Handkerchiefs to cover his Grave; and as he was a Warrior, he was buried in an handsome Manner, and with military Honours, the Council, the Commissioners, the Officers of the Militia, and the principal Inhabitants of the Town attending the Funeral.

The Bill intituled "An Act for regulating the Officers and Soldiers commissionated and raised by the Governor, for the Defence of the Province," was read, and referred to the Attorney General.

Then Scarroyady delivered the Remainder of his Report in these Words:

"Brother:

"You desired us in your Instructions to enquire the particular Reasons assigned by the Delawares and Shawonese for their acting in the manner they do against this Province. I have done it, and all I could get from the Indians is that they heard them say their Brethren the English had accused them very falsly of joining with the French after Colonel Washington's Defeat, and if they would charge them when they were innocent they could do no more if they were guilty; this turned them against their Brethren, and now indeed the English have good Reason for any Charge they may make against them, for they are very heartily their Enemies.

"Brethren:

"I promised to tell you what passed at the Onondago Council between the Six Nations and the Delaware Deputies, and according to the Information given me by one of the Members present it is as follows, vis$^{t.}$: The Council very sharply reprehended the Delawares for their cruel and unbrotherly Behaviour against the English, and earnestly urged them to repent and desist, and the Two Delawares in their Justification spoke thus to the Council:

"'Uncles:

"'Your Complaints of us are very true and just, but we hope you will likewise hear what Reasons we have for our Behaviour against the English. When we lived among them they behaved very ill to us; they used us like Dogs; they often saw us pinched with want and starving, and would take no Pity of us; sometimes we were in Liquor, a Fault which you are sensible we cannot always avoid, as we cannot govern ourselves when we come where Liquors are; when we were in this Condition they turned us out of their Houses and beat us, so that when we came to be sober we were not able to get up, and at this very Time they have taken up and put into Prison the few Straglers of our People that are yet among them. Now, Uncles, can this be called Brotherly Treatment? don't you imagine such Usage must raise Ill Nature in our Hearts? And have we not good Reason for what we are doing? We don't doubt if we would let things go on as they have done but they would subdue us and make Slaves of us. Nevertheless, Uncles, we listen to what you told us; we thank you for your Advice, and since you insist upon our leaving off we will take what you have said to us and carry it to our Nations and stop them from proceeding. We will tell the Warriors and every one else it is your Pleasure we should not go to War against the English; not a Man shall pass thro' our Town but we will call him to us and make known to him your Commands delivered in Council.'

"The Six Nations, in their Reply, expressed great Resentment at the Delawares; they threatened to shake them by the Head, saying, they were drunk and out of their Senses, and did not consider the consequence of their ill Behaviour, and assured them, that if they did not perform what they promised, they should be severely chastized; whereupon the Delawares again promised to acquaint their Nations with every thing that passed, and to send their Answer by Express.

"Brother:

"This, I hope, will be a sufficient Answer to that Part of your Instructions in which you desire us to enquire and find out the true Reasons of the Delawares turning against us; as to the main Business we had in Charge to lay before the Six Nations, I need not be particular, as I have delivered the several Strings and Belts given us, and every thing done there is put in the Treaty which Col. Johnson sent you by Mr. Claus; by this you will see, that Deputies of the United Nations are gone into the Delaware Country, in order to have a Meeting with the Delawares there; and after every thing proposed is agreed upon by those Deputies and our Nephews, you will have their full and final Answer.

" Number of Indians at the Treaty at Mount Johnson :

" Senecas	46
" Cayugas	29
" Onondagos	34
" Oneidos	84
" Tuscororas	34
" Canajorees	106
" Mohawks	100
" Oghquagis and Skaniadaradighs	66
" Schoharies	26
" Chenosees	15
	540
" Scarroyady's Family	5
" Mr. Montour's	2
" Nukus, the Oneidas	8
" Ruth, the Tuscaroras	6
" Cayanquiloquoas	9
" 6 Mahickaners from Skenewesys	6
" 2 Oneida families separate	10
	586 "

The Officers of Eight Companies near the City of Philadelphia, praying by a Committee to be regimented, it was agreed to, and the Governor order'd the Commissions for the Field Officers to be made out agreeable to the Return.

At a Council held at Philadelphia the 8th day of April 1756.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

William Logan	Lynford Lardner	Esquires
Richard Peters	John Mifflin	
Benjamin Chew		

The Indians were sent for and the Governor spoke to them as follows.

Brother Scarroyady & Montour.

We have attentively considered the Relation you have made of your Journey and Proceedings and in behalf of this Government and the good People of this Province We return you our Hearty thanks for the Diligence with which you have executed the trust reposed in you, We are sensible of the many Dangers you have been exposed to and the fatigue such a long Journey must have given you in so severe a Season and we make you our hearty acknowledgments and shall order you an handsome Gratification for your Trouble. Here gave a String.

Brethren of the Six Nations.

Your Nephews the Delawares and some in Alliance with them have continued and still do continue committing many barbarous and cruel Murders on every part of our Borders tho they must certainly have received the Messages from the Onondago Council by the two Delawares from Wyahogo, ordering them to desist on pain of their Displeasure

and

the

Govr.

and Correction - and it is probable that the Second Meſsage of the ſame Import from the Great Council held at Fort Johnson must have been delivered to them likewise, as Scarroyady ſays in his report that the Meſsengers were set out before he came from thence.

Brethren.

It appears to us that the Delawares have sold themselves to the French and are determined to take this opportunity to throw of their Subjection and Dependency upon the Six Nations imagining they shall be supported in it by their New Masters, else they woud not have had the Aſsurance to treat the Six Nations with insolence, as it is well known they have done even to threaten some of them to their Faces to make Women of them, if they woud not aſsist them in the War against the English.

Brethren.

We have by your advice taken all the amicable methods in our Power to bring them to desist. You must have been able your selves to aſsure the Six Nations that their Accusations of us were all groundleſs and invented to amuse and from what you have said in Conversation we think the United Nations saw these false Charges in their true Light, rather as aggravations than Extenuations of their Cousins guilt, and we were in hopes their Interposition would have had its weight with the Delawares and that they would not have dared to continue their Ravages after receiving their orders to desist - but you see it is otherwise.

Brethren

We

Brethren.

We have remained on the Defensive waiting for the result of the Council and your return but since neither the Messages we have sent to them nor those of the Six Nations are of any avail, and that we have done every thing in our power to avoid a War, I now find I can no longer answer it to his Majesty, nor to his Subjects committed to my care, nor to those of the other Colonies to delay any longer to declare them Enemies to his Majesty and to Act against them with all the Vigour Possible. I therefore by this Belt declare War against the Delawares and all such as Act in Conjunction with them. I offer you the Hatchet and expect your hearty concurrence with us in this just and necessary War. I not only invite you but desire you will send this Belt to all your Friends every where as well on the Susquahannah as to the Six Nations and to their Allies and engage them to join us heartily against these false and perfidious Enemies. I promise them and you protection and our Assistance when you shall stand in need of it against your Enemies.

Gave a War Belt.

Brethren

For the Encouragement of you and all who will join you in the Destruction of our Enemies I propose to give the following Bounties or Rewards viz^t: For every Male Indian Prisoner above twelve Years old that shall be delivered at any of the Governments Forts or Towns One hundred and fifty Dollars. For every Female Indian Prisoner or Male Prisoner of twelve Years old and under delivered as above One hundred and thirty Dollars. For the Scalp of every Male Indian of above Twelve Years old One hundred and thirty Dollars. For the

Gov^r.

The Scalps of every Indian Woman Fifty Dollers —
Brethren.

To our own People I shall observe our own forms, to you I have given the Hatchet according to yours. This Belt confirms my words.

Gave a Belt.

Brethren.

Agreeable to your repeated Request I am now going to build a Fort at Shamokin, Forces are raising for that purpose and every thing will soon be in readiness- I propose it for a place of Protection and Refuge for you and your Familys and to this all the Indians who are the Friends of the English, may repair, and they will ever find a kind reception & necessarys of all kinds

I need not remind you of your earnest Importunities to have this done and of your promises to assist in it- Our Warriors will be animated when they see you join and Assist them.

Gave a String

A true Copy
Richard Peters

General

To which they gave a Publick Answer on the tenth in the State house before the Governor, Council and a large — appearance of Citizens as follows.

Brethren

It is but the other day that we had the happiness to see one another after a long and dangerous Journey which I am sorry has had no better Effect and that I could not bring you so good News as you expected.- Our Nephews did not listen to us, they were not obedient to what was said to them. We are amazed to find you still sitting with your Hands between your knees and for an Apology for so unbecoming a Posture you tell us that as the Delawares were Couzins of the Six Nations you woud first consult them and chose not to Act offensively till you shoud know their minds as the Delawares are subject to them. You add now that all means have been tryd and our Cousins are still disobedient you at last find your selves under a necessity to declare War against them.

Brethren

You have indeed tryd all amicable means with them and with the Six Nations. but as all have proved ineffectual You do right to strike them. You have had a great deal of patience, Other People on loosing a single Man woud have Armed and drove off the Foe, but you have sat still while Numbers of your People have been and are now Murdered. We heartily approve of your Resolutions awake, and shake off your Lethargy, stand up with your Hatchet in your Hand, and use it manfully. Your Enemies have got great an advantages by your inactivity. shew them you are Men!

You told us you must now Build a Fort at Shamokin we are glad to hear it. It is a good thing. these young Men are glad in their Hearts and promise you their Assistance, and woud have you go on with it as fast as you can. and others too will assist you when they see you are in Earnest. I have good ground to go upon in what I say. I know what is in the

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The Scalp of every Indian Woman Fifty Dollers ~~

the Breasts and minds of the Warriors of the Mohocks Oneidos & Oneoquages they have opened their Hearts to me, they are under my Command, they will do what I advise and they shall see this your Belt of Wampum.

Brethren.

The Fort at Shamokin is not a thing of little Consequence, it is of the greatest Importance to us as well as you. Your People are foolish, for want of this Fort the Indians who are your Friends can be of no service to you, having no place to go to where they can promise themselves Protection, they cannot be called together, they can do nothing for you, they are not secure any where. At present your People cannot distinguish Foes from Friends. they think every Indian is against them, they blame us all without distinction, because they see no body appear for them. the common People to a Man entertain this notion and insult us wherever we go. we bear their ill usage, tho' very Irksome; but all this will be set right when you have built the Fort and you will see that we in particular are sincere and many others will come to your Assistance.

We desire when the Fort is built you will put into the Command of so important a Place some of your best People grave solid and sensible Men who are in repute amongst you, and in whom we can place a Confidence, do this and you'll soon see a Change in your affairs for the better.

Brethren.

As we agree to take up the Hatchet and to come into your Measures we must advise you that in all your steps you will Act so as to be secure and not ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ ~ go forwards for a while and then be obliged to go as far or further back again and that with Shame. Your People are foolish - they are extreamly heavy move slow, and are liable to surprizes if you go by your selves - We are a light Body. We can trip nimbly thro the Woods - look over a large extent of Country and see that all is clear and no Enemy lying conceal'd to cut you off when you think nothing of it - we must likewise tell you not to make a trifling Peace, you have no doubt heard that we are a People who never lay down our Arms, it is true, our Young People now tell you that they will fight whilst they can find one of the Enemy to fight with, so do not make a trifling Peace. Do yourselves and us Justice, and bring your Enemies to Terms and then and not till then think of a Peace. This is our advice.

here they danced the War dance, the Indian called the Belt singing & they with him as is usual for Indians to do on this occasion, with the Belt in his Hand.

Here the Interpreter said, Scarroyady was going on a fresh matter, and ~~that~~ Indians change their Subject without giving notice or making any Apology. but it might be proper for him to acquaint the Governor that he was going to address him and the three Delawares that they had placed on Seats within the full view of him and the Council.

Scarroyady addressing himself to the Governor and Delawares and turning to them spoke in the following manner, Andrew Montour Interpreting what he said.

We are glad to see some of our Cousins in this Town and that they are safe and unhurt. we observe that they walk about the Streets as if they were of your own People and your Friends and that they are so secure amongst you.

A String.

Then addressing the Governor he resumed his Speech holding two Belts in his Hands.

Brethren.

In my Journey as I went thro' Oneocquago, Oneido and the Mohock Country, I was much sollicited by them to come and reside among them they repeatedly said to me Father we have lost all our old People we have but few Councellors left - we want some Men of gravity and Experience to advise us and instruct us what to do against the Common Enemy

Govr

The Scalp of every Indian Woman Fifty Dollers ——

Enemy. We therefore entreat you will come and live with us, we will obey you in every thing you shall tell us what to do, we will follow you wherever you go, you shall find us obedient Children to you, in this manner they importuned me frequently at the Treaty at Fort Johnson these several People all spoke to him to Join with them in this application, and to use his Interest with me, which he undertook to do and he Joined a Belt to theirs by which they renewed their Sollicitations, what they said I have already mentioned, Colonel Johnson on his own Part Spoke. Father! a great many Indians have sollicited me very warmly to desire you will be a Captain among their Warriors, and a Councellor in their Councils and I have considered well their Applications, and do think it will be for the Interest of the Six Nations and of service to his Majesty and the Colonies, that you shoud gratify them, and remove to some principal Place in the Six Nation Country, and therefore on behalf of the King of Great Britain and of the Colonies I have joined a Belt to theirs, and do request you will move up to some place here, and take upon you the command of the Warriors & your seat at the Council fire, and afford them the Aſsistance they desire which they want by the Death of their Chiefs. Here he seperated the Belts and gave Colonel Johnson's Belt to the Governor.

He added Colonel Johnson will bear Witneſs that these Indians are your very good Friends and have a good meaning in this request to me. I shall not be far from you, we can always correspond with ease, it is but a little way from where Intend to live to Shamokin. I now desire you will order an immediate Convayance for us that are here, our Wives and Children, that we may get safe to Colonel Johnson, Clause Montour and Croghan say they have a call there and they can with your Order conduct us thro' our ~~our~~ Journey.

Scarroyady addreſsing the Delawares Spoke.

Cousins.

One of the Reasons aſsigned by the Delawares to the

Six Nations for their striking the English was that they were ill used by the Inhabitants when they lived among them. now this we know at the time was false and are living Witneſses of the contrary and as such must come and bear your Testimony at the great Meeting which is to be held in June at Oswego between the Six Nations and their Allies, and General Johnson. I give you notice of it and invite you to it, that you may confront this false Story and be living Evidences of the contrary and that you may hear what is said at that great Meeting and give an Account thereof to your People. It behoves you to be of good behaviour and give no Offence to your Brethren the English nor misrepresent them.

Gave a String.

Scarroyady held up two Belts and two Strings tyed endways to one another and spoke again but did not deliver them over. one of the Belts was given us by the Governor of Virginia to take up the Hatchet, we joined one to it of our own. We have made use of it and now we are going to make use of it again. You hear what our Brethren have said to Us and we to them - consider of it and for the future go hand in hand with us.

The Governor after a little pause addreſsed the Indians

I return you thanks for the Zeal with which you have taken up the Hatchet - the War shall be prosecuted with all the Vigor I am able to inspire, and you shall not want any aſsistance I am able to afford —— I hope since you have joined with us in this neceſsary War that the Blood of our Inhabitants will cease to run. as to other matters they shall be spoke of at another time.

A true Copy
Richard Peters

the Chiefs of the Delawares and Shawanese: This you must be sensible

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Thursday the 8th April, 1756, P. M.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

William Logan,
Richard Peters,
Benjamin Chew,
Lynford Lardner,
John Mifflin, } Esquires.

The Minutes of the preceeding Council were read and approved.

The Governor informed the Council that he was pressed by the Commissioners to declare War against the Delawares and issue a Proclamation for Rewards for Scalps at several conferences he had with them, as there seemed an absolute necessity for so doing. That this was agreeable to his own Judgment, and he should be glad to know the Opinion of his Council, who concurred in Judgment with the Governor and Commissioners, and advised him to send for the Indians and declare to them his Intentions. Mr. Logan dissented to a Declaration of War against the Indians, and desired his Dissent might be entered on the Minutes.

The Governor likewise informed the Council that the Commissioners had verbally promised and would in the Morning give under their Hands their Advice, and Promise to pay the Rewards as then settled between them, and to support the Governor by writing under the Hands of all the Commissioners on his proposing it to the Indians. On this assumption the Governor prepar'd a Speech, submitted it to the Council, and they approving it, the Indians were sent for and the following Speech was delivered to them:

"Brother Scarroyady and Montour:

"We have attentively considered the Relation you have made of your Journey and Proceedings, and in Behalf of this Government and the good People of this Province, we return you our hearty Thanks for the Diligence with which you have executed the Trust reposed in you; we are sensible of the many Dangers you have been exposed to, and the Fatigue such a long Journey must have given you in so severe a Season, and we make you our hearty Acknowledgements, and shall order you an handsome gratification for your Trouble."

Here gave a String.

"Brethren, the Six Nations:

"Your Nephews the Delawares, and some in Alliance with them, have continued, and still do continue, committing the most barbarous and cruel Murders on every Part of our Borders, tho' they must certainly have received the Messages from the Onondago Council, by the Two Delawares from Diahoga, ordering them to desist on Pain of their displeasure and correction; and it is probable that the second Message of the same Import, from the Great Council held at Fort Johnson, must have been delivered likewise, as Scarroyady says in his Report that the Messengers were set out before he came from thence.

"Brethren:

"It appears to us that the Delawares have sold themselves to the French, and are determined to take this Opportunity to throw off their Subjection and Dependency upon the Six Nations, imagining they shall be supported in it by their New Masters, else they would not have had the Assurance to treat the Six Nations with Insolence, as it is well known they have done, even to threaten some of them to their Faces, to make Women of them, if they would not assist them in the War against the English.

"Brethren:

"We have, by your Advice, taken all the amicable Methods in our power to bring them to desist; you must have been able yourselves to assure the Six Nations, that the Accusations of us were all Groundless, and invented to amuse; and from what you have said in Conversation, we think the united Nations saw these false Charges in their true Light, rather as Aggravations than Extenuations of their Cousins' Guilt; and we were in hopes their Interposition would have had its Weight with the Delawares, and that they would not have dared to continue their Ravages, after receiving their Orders to desist; but you see it is otherwise.

"Brethren:

"We have remained on the Defensive, waiting for the Result of the Council and your Return; but since neither the Messages we have sent to them, nor these of the Six Nations are of any Avail, and that we have done everything in our Power to avoid a War, I now find I can no longer answer it to his Majesty, nor to his Subjects committed to my care, nor to those of the other colonies, to delay any longer to declare them Enemies to his Majesty, and to act against them with all the Vigour possible; I therefore, by this Belt, declare War against the Delawares, and all such as act in conjunction with them. I offer you the Hatchet, and expect your hearty Concurrence with us in this just and necessary War. I not only invite you, but desire you will send this Belt to all your Friends every where, as well on the Sasquehannah, as to the Six Nations and to their Allies, and engage them to join us heartily against these false and perfidious Enemies. I promise you and them Protection and our Assistance, when you shall stand in need of it against your Enemies."

Gave a War Belt.

"Brethren:

"For the Encouragement of you, and all who will join you in the Destruction of our Enemies, I propose to give the following Bounties or Rewards, Vist.: for every Male Indian Prisoner above Twelve Years Old that shall be delivered at any of the Government's Forts, or Towns, One Hundred and Fifty Dollars.

"For every Female Indian Prisoner, or male Prisoner of Twelve Years old, and under, delivered as above, one hundred and thirty Dollars.

"For the Scalp of every male Indian of above Twelve Years old, one hundred and thirty Dollars.

"For the Scalp of every Indian Woman, Fifty Dollars.

"To our own People, I shall observe our own Forms; to you I give the Hatchet according to yours. This Belt confirms my Words."

Here gave a Belt.

"Brethren:

"Agreeable to your repeated Request, I am now going to build a Fort at Shamokin. Forces are raising for that Purpose, and every thing will soon be in Readiness. I purpose it as a Place of Protection and Refuge for you and your Families, and to this all the Indians who are the Friends of the English may repair, and they will ever find a kind Reception and Necessaries of all kinds.

"I need not remind you of your earnest Importunities to have this done, and of your Promise to assist in it. Our Warriors will be animated when they see you join and assist them."

The Governor and Council took into Consideration the Assembly's Answer to the Governor's Amendments to the Bill for regulating the Officers and Soldiers commissionated and raised by the Governor for the Defence of this Province, and Sundry Amendments being made it was again sent to the House. Likewise the Governor, by the Secretary, sent to the House the Bill for ascertaining the Fineness of wrought Gold and Silver, and preventing Frauds and Abuses in Manufactures made thereof, with a verbal Message that the Governor adhered to his Amendments to the said Bill; at the same Time the Governor sent down to the House Copies of the foregoing minutes of Council relating to Indian Affairs.

Then was read a Return of Mr. John Nixon, in the Room of Mr. Thomas Willing, late Lieutenant in Captain Roberdeau's Company, who has resigned; the Attorney General declaring it to be his Opinion that the Election and Return of the said Mr. Nixon is not warranted by the Act of Assembly for this Reason, and because the said Election was made before Mr. Willing's Resignation, the said Return was rejected.

Returns of seven associated Companies of Foot Militia in the County of York were read, the Officers approved, and Commissions ordered to issue.

The want of Powder and Ammunition is set forth in all the Returns, and a Petition for a Supply referred to the Commissioners.

The following Letter, containing some Account of a Skirmish between a Party of Indians and some of our Forces, was delivered to the Governor, which was read and order'd to be entered:

A Letter from Mr. Hance Hamilton to Capt. Potter.

"Fort Littleton, April 9th, 1756, 8 o'clock, P. M.

"Sr:

"These come to inform you of the melancholy news of what occurred between the Indians, that had taken many Captives from McCord's Fort, and a Party of Men under the Command of Capt. Alexander Culbertson, and nineteen of our Men, the whole amounting to about fifty, who came upon the Indians with the Captives, and had a sore Engagement, many of both Parties killed and many wounded, the number unknown; those wounded want a Surgeon, and those killed require your Assistance as soon as possible to bury them; we have sent an Express to Fort Shirley, for Doctor Mercer, supposing Doctor Jemmison is killed or mortally wounded in the Expedition, he being not returned; therefore desire you will send an Express immediately for Doctor Prentice, to Carlisle, we imagining that Doctor Mercer cannot leave the Fort under the Circumstances that Fort is under. Our Indian, Isaac, has brought in Captain Jacob's Scalp. Sir, please to exert yourself in this Affair.

"I am, Sir, Your most humble Servant,

"HANCE HAMILTON."

MEMORANDUM:

On the ninth Instant Two Members waited on the Governor with the Bill for regulating the Officers and Soldiers commissionated and raised by the Governor for the Defence of this Province, and informed the Governor that the House had agreed to some of his Amendments, and desired he would be pleased to pass the Bill as it now stood.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Thursday the 8th: April 1756. P.M.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

William Logan
Richard Peters
Benjamin Chew
Lynford Lardner } Esquires
John Mifflin }

The Minutes of the preceeding Council were read and approved.

The Governor informed the Council, that he was preſsed by the Commiſsioners to declare War against the Delawares and iſsue a Proclamation for Rewards for Scalps at several Conferences he had with them, as there seemed an absolute Neceſsity for so doing; ---- that this was agreeable to his own Judgment, and he should be glad to know the Opinion of his Council, who concurred in Judgment with the Governor and Commiſsioners, and advised him to send for the Indians, and declare to them his Intentions. Mr. Logan diſsented to a Declaration of War against the Indians, and desired his Diſsent might be entered on the Minutes.

The Governor likewise informed the Council, that the Commiſsioners had verbally promised, and would in the morning give under their Hands their Advice, and Promise to pay the Rewards as then settled between them, and to support the Governor by writing under the Hands of all the Commiſsioners, on his proposing it to the Indians. On this Aſsumption, the Governor prepared a Speech, submitted it to the Council, and they approving it, the Indians were sent for, and the following Speech was delivered to them.

Brother Scarroyady and Montour,

We have attentively considered the Relation you have made of your Journey and Proceedings, and in Behalf of this Government and the good People of this Province, we return you our hearty Thanks for the Diligence with which you have executed the Trust reposed in you; we are sensible of the many Dangers you have been exposed to, and the Fatigue such a long Journey must have given you in so severe a Season, and we make you our hearty Acknowledgments, and shall order you an handsome Gratification for your Trouble. Here gave a String.

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Brethren,

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Brethren;

Agreable to your repeated Request I am now going to build a Fort at Shamokin, Forces are raising for that Purpose, and every thing will soon be in Readineſs. I purpose it as a Place of Protection and Refuge for you and your Families, and to this all the Indians who are the Friends of the English may repair, and they will ever find a kind Reception and Neceſsaries of all kinds.

I need not remind you of your earnest Importunities to have this done, and of your Promise to aſsist in it. Our Warriors will be animated when they see you join and aſsist them.

The Governor and Council took into Consideration the Aſsembly's Answer to the Governor's Amendments to the Bill for regulating the Officers and Soldiers commiſsionated and raised by the Governor for the Defence of this Province, and sundry Amendments being made, it was again sent to the House; Likewise the Governor, by the Secretary, sent to the House the Bill for ascertaining the Fineneſs of wrought Gold and Silver, and preventing Frauds and Abuses in Manufactures made thereof; with a verbal Meſsage, that the Governor adhered to his Amendment to the said Bill. At the same Time the Governor sent down to the House, Copies of the foregoing Minutes of Council relating to Indian Affairs.

Then was read a Return of Mr. John Nixon, in the Room of Mr. Thomas Willing, late Lieutenant in Captain Roberdeau's Company, who has resigned; the Attorney General declaring it to be his Opinion, that the Election and Return of the said Mr. Nixon is not warranted by the Act of Aſsembly, for this Reason, and because the said Election was made before Mr. Willing's Resignation, the said Return was rejected.

Returns of seven aſsociated Companies of Foot Militia in the County of York were read, the Officers approved, and Commiſsions ordered to iſsue. The Want of Powder and Ammunition is set forth in all the Returns, and a Petition for a Supply referred to the Commiſsioners.

The following Letter, containing some Account of a Skirmish between a Party of Indians and some of our Forces, was delivered to the Governor, which was read, and orderd to be entered.

A Letter from Mr. Hance Hamilton to Capt. Potter

Fort Littleton April 4th. 1756 8 o'Clock P.M.

Sir

These come to inform you of the melancholy News of what occurred, between the Indians that had taken many Captives from McCords Fort, and a Party of Men under the Command of Capt. Alexander Culbertson, and nineteen of our Men, the whole amounting to about fifty, who came upon the Indians with the Captives, and had a sore Engagement, many of both Parties killed, and many wounded, the Number unknown, those wounded want a Surgeon, and those killed require your Aſsistance as soon as poſsible to bury them; we have sent an Expreſs to Fort Shirley, for Doctor Mercer, supposing Doctor Jemmison is killed, or mortally wounded in the Expedition, he being not returned; therefore desire you will send an Expreſs immediately for Doctor Prentice to Carlisle, we imagining that Doctor Mercer cannot leave the Fort under the Circumstances that Fort is under. Our Indian Isaac has brought in Captain Jacob's Scalp. Sir, please to exert yourself in this Affair. I am

Sir
your most humble Servant
Hance Hamilton

Memorandum: On the Ninth Instant Two Members waited on the Governor with the Bill for regulating the Officers and Soldiers commiſsionated and raised by the Governor for the Defence of this Province, and informed the Governor; that the House had agreed to some of his Amendments, and desired he would be pleased to paſs the Bill as it now stood.

A Letter from Mr. Hance Hamilton to Capt. Potter

Fort Littleton April 4th: 1756 8 o'Clock P.M.

Sir

These come to inform you of the melancholy News of what occurred, between the Indians that had taken many Captives from McCords Fort, and a Party of Men under the Command of Capt. Alexander Culbertson, and nineteen of our Men, the whole amounting to about fifty, who came upon the Indians with the Captives, and had a sore Engagement, many of both Parties killed, and many wounded, the Number unknown, those wounded want a Surgeon, and those killed require your Assistance as soon as possible to bury them; we have sent an Express to Fort Shirley for Doctor Mercer, supposing Doctor Jemmison is killed, or mortally wounded in the Expedition, he being not returned; therefore desire you will send an Express immediately for Doctor Prentice to Carlisle, we imagining that Doctor Mercer cannot leave the Fort under the Circumstances that Fort is under. Our Indian Isaac has brought in Captain Jacob's Scalp. Sir, please to exert yourself in this Affair. I am

Sir
your most humble Servant
Hance Hamilton

Memorandum: On the Ninth Instant Two Members waited on the Governor with the Bill for regulating the Officers and Soldiers commissionated and raised by the Governor for the Defence of this Province, and informed the Governor; that the House had agreed to some of his Amendments, and desired he would be pleased to pass the Bill as it now stood.

At a Council held in the State House Saturday the 10th: April 1756.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor

Robert Strettell
Richard Peters
Benjamin Chew
Thomas Cadwalader
William Logan
Lynford Lardner
John Mifflin } Esquires

The same Indians as in the former Councils.

Conrad Weiser Esquire, Interpreter.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

A Resolve of the Commissioners was yesterday given to the Secretary to be delivered to the Governor, which not being satisfactory, a Letter under hand was required advising War, and promising Bounty and Rewards for Scalps &ca.

The Proclamation of a Declaration of War was again considered; and the Governor laid before the Council a Letter he had received this morning from the Commissioners, in these Words

April 10th. 1756.

May it please the Governor,

We the Commissioners appointed by Law to dispose of Sixty Thousand Pounds for his Majesty's Use, taking into Consideration the daily cruel Ravages, Burnings, Murders, &c^a. committed by Enemy Indians upon the Inhabitants of this Province, without the least Provocation given on our Part; and believing that to pursue and attack the Enemy in their own Towns and Villages will be the likeliest means, under God, of driving them from our Frontiers at the present, and preventing their barbarous Incursions for the future, Do propose, to the Governor, as our Opinion, that it is necessary for this Province immediately to declare War against the Delawares, and all other Enemy Indians; which, if he shall be pleased to do, We hereby, as much as in us lies, enable him to promise and pay the following Rewards to such as shall make captive, or put to Death, any of the said Enemy Indians, upon due Proof of its being done within the Bounds of this Province. viz^t.

see page 181

	Dollars
For every Male Indian Prisoner above Ten Years old that shall be delivered at any of the Governments Forts or Towns	150.
For every Female Indian Prisoner, or Male Prisoner of ten Years old and under, to be delivered as above - - - - - -	130
For the Scalp of every Male Indian above ten years old - - -	130
For the Scalp of every Indian Woman - - - - - - - -	50

One Half of the above mentioned Rewards for the said Services to be allowed to any of the Forces in the Pay of the Province. We are

Sir

Your most obedient Servants

Jos: Fox
Evan Morgan
John Hughes
James Hamilton
John Mifflin

To the Hon^ble Robert Hunter Morris Esq^r.

The Indians desiring to be heard they were called in, and before a large Number of People who came on this Occasion into the Court House, Scarroyady delivered himself as follows,

Brethren,

It is but the other Day that we had the Happiness to see one another after a long and dangerous Journey, which I am sorry has had no better Effect, and that I could not bring you so good News as you expected; our Nephews did not listen to us, they were not obedient to what was said to them. We are amazed to find you still sitting with your Hands between your Knees, and for an Apology for so unbecoming a Posture, you tell us, that, as the Delawares were Cousins of the Six Nations, you would first consult them, and chose not to act offensively till you should know their Minds, as the Delawares are subject to them; you add, now that all means have been tried, and our Cousins are still disobedient, you at last find yourselves under a Neceſsity to declare War against them.

Brethren,

You have indeed tried all amicable Means with those and with the Six Nations, but as all have proved ineffectual, you do right to strike them. You have had a great deal of Patience; other People on losing a single Man would have armed and drove off the Foe, but you have sat still while Numbers of your People have been and now are murdered. We heartily approve of your Resolutions; awake, shake off your Lethargy, stand up with your Hatchet in your Hand, and use it manfully. Your Enemies have got great Advantage by your Inactivity. Shew them you are Men.

Brethren,

You told us that you must now build a Fort at Shamokin; we are glad to hear it. It is a good Thing. These young Men are glad in their Hearts, and promise you their Aſsistance, and would have you go on with it as fast as you can, and others too will aſsist you, when they see you are in earnest. I have good Ground to go upon in what I say; I know what is in the Breasts and Minds of the Warriors of the Mohocks, Oneidos and Onoquages; they have opened their Hearts to me; they are under my Command; they will do what I advise, and they shall see this your Belt of Wampum.

Brethren,

The Fort at Shamokin is not a thing of little Consequence; it is of the greatest Importance to us as well as you. Your People are foolish; for want of this Fort, the Indians, who are your Friends, can be of no Service to you, having no Place to go to where they can promise themselves Protection; they cannot be called together, they can do nothing for you, they are not secure any where. At present your People cannot distinguish Foes from Friends; they think every Indian is against them; they blame us all without Distinction, because they see nobody appear for them; the common People to a Man entertain this Notion, and insult us wherever we go; we bear their ill Usage, tho very irksome; but all this will be set right, when you have built the Fort, and you will see that we in particular are sincere, and many others will come to your Aſsistance. We desire when the Fort is built, you will put into the Command of so important a Place some of your best People, grave, solid and sensible Men, who are in Repute amongst you, and in whom we can place a Confidence; do this, and you will soon see a Change in your Affairs for the better.

Brethren,

As we agree to take up the Hatchet, and to come into all your Measures, we must advise you, that, in all your Steps, you will act so as to be secure, and not go forwards for a while, and then be obliged to go as far, or farther, back again; and that with Shame. Your People are foolish; they are extremely heavy, more slow, and are liable to Surprizes, if you go by yourselves– We are a light Body, we can trip nimbly thro the Woods, look over a large Extent of Country, and see that all is clear, and no Enemy lying concealed to cut you off, when you think nothing of it– We must likewise tell you not to make a trifling Peace– You have no doubt heard we are a People who never lay down our Arms; it is true, our young People now tell you, that they will fight whilst they can find one of the Enemy to fight with, so do not make a trifling Peace; do yourselves and us Justice, and bring your Enemies to a due Sense of themselves, and to offer just Terms, and then, and not till then, think of a Peace. This is our Advice.

Here they danced the War Dance; the Indian called the Belt singing with a Belt in his Hand.

Here the Interpreter said Scarroyady was going on a fresh Matter, and said Indians change their Subject, without giving Notice or making any Apology; but it might be proper for him to acquaint the Governor, that he was going to addreſs him and the three Delawares that they had placed on Seats within the full View of him and the Council– Scarroyady addreſsing himself to the Governor and Delawares, and turning to them, spoke in the following Manner, Andrew Montour interpreting what he said.

We are glad to see some of our Cousins in this Town, and that they are safe and unhurt; we observe that they walk about the Streets, as if they were of your own People and your Friends, and that they are so secure amongst you.

A String.

Then addreſsing the Governor, he resumed his Speech, holding two Belts in his Hands.

Brethren,

In my Journey, as I went thro Onequago, Oneido and the Mohocks Country, I was much sollicited by them to come and reside among them, they repeatedly said to me; Father, we have lost all our old People, we have but few Counsellors left. We want some Men of Gravity and Experience to advise us and instruct us, what to do against the common Enemy; we therefore entreat you will come and live with us, we will obey you in every thing you shall tell us to do, we will follow you wherever you go, you shall find us obedient Children to you; in this manner they importuned me frequently, and at the Treaty at Fort Johnson these People all spoke to him to join with them on this Application, and to use his Interest with me, which he undertook to do, and he joined a Belt to theirs by which they renewed their Sollicitations; what they said I have already mentioned.

Colonel Johnson on his own part spoke. Father, a great many Indians have solicited me very warmly to desire you will be a Captain among the Warriors, and a Counsellor in their Councils, and I have considered well their Applications, and do think it will be for the Interest of the Six Nations and of Service to his Majesty and the Colonies, that you should gratify them, and remove to some principal Place in the Six Nation Country; and therefore in behalf of the King of Great Britain and of the Colonies, I have joined a Belt to theirs, and do request you will remove up to some Place here and take upon you the Command of the Warriors and your Seat at the Council Fire, and afford them the Aſsistance they desire, and which they want by the Death of their Chiefs. Here he separated the Belts, and gave Col. Johnson's Belt to the Governor.

Brethren,

Colonel Johnson will bear Witneſs that these Indians are your very good Friends, and have a good meaning in this Request to me. I shall not be far from you; we can always correspond with Ease; it is but a little way from where I intend to live to Shamokin. I now desire you will order an immediate Conveyance for us that are here, our Wives and Children that we may get safe to Colonel Johnson's House, Montour and Croghan say they have a Call there, and they can with your Order conduct us thro the Journey.

Scarroyady addreſsing the Delawares spoke.

Cousins,

One of the Reasons aſsigned by the Delawares to the Six Nations for their striking the English was, that they were ill used by the Inhabitants when they lived among them; now this we knew at the Time was false, and you are living Witneſses to the contrary, and as such must come and bear your Testimony at the great Meeting which is to be held in June at Oswego, between the Six Nations and their Allies, and General Johnson. I give you Notice of it, and invite you to it, that you may confront this false Story, and be living Evidence of the contrary, and that you may hear what is said at that great Meeting, and give an Account thereof to your People. It behoves you to be of good Behaviour, and give no Offence to your Brethren the English, nor to misrepresent them.

Gave a String.

Scarroyady held up two Belts and two Strings tied endways to one another, and spoke again, but did not deliver them over.

Cousins,

One of these Belts was given us by the Governor of Virginia to take up the Hatchet, we joined one of our own to it. We have made use of it, and now are going to make use of it again. You hear what our Brethren have said to us, and we to them; consider of it, and for the future go hand in hand with us. I have finished.

The Governor, after a little Pause, addreſsed the Indians. I return you Thanks for the Zeal with which you have taken up the Hatchet. The War shall be prosecuted with all the Vigour I am able to inspire, and you shall not want any Aſsistance I am able to afford; I hope since you have joined with us in this neceſsary War, that the Blood of our Inhabitants will cease to run. As to other Matters, they shall be spoke of at another Time.

The Governor sent the Secretary to the Aſsembly with the Act for regulating the Officers and Soldiers commiſsionated and raised by the Governor for the Defence of this Province, with a Meſsage, that he adhered to his Amendments; and desired a Conference with the House in the Council Chamber, either this Afternoon, or on Monday, as they should encline. They chose the Afternoon, and accordingly a Conference was held; in which it appeared that the Committee appointed to confer with his Honour on the Bill, were of Opinion from the Reasons offered by the Governor, that his Amendments were just and ought to be agreed to.

The Returns of several Companies of Foot Militia, in the Counties of York, Lancaster, and Bucks were read, the Officers approved and Commiſsions ordered to iſsue.

Two Returns of Companies in Bucks County under the Aſsociation were read and approved.

At a Council held in the State House, Saturday the 10th April, 1756.

PRESENT:

"The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell, William Logan,
Richard Peters, Lynford Lardner,
Benjamin Chew, John Mifflin, Esquires.
Thomas Cadwalader,

The same Indians as in the former Councils.

Conrad Weiser, Esquire, Interpreter.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

A Resolve of the Commissioners was yesterday given to the Secretary to be delivered to the Governor, which not being satisfactory, a Letter under hand was required advising War, and promising Bounty and Rewards for Scalps, &c^{a}.

The Proclamation of a Declaration of War was again considered, and the Governor laid before the Council a Letter he had received this morning from the Commissioners, in these words:

"April 10th, 1756.

"May it please the Governor:

"We the Commissioners appointed by Law to dispose of Sixty Thousand Pounds for his Majesty's use, taking into Consideration the daily cruel Ravages, Burnings, Murders, &c^{a}. committed by Enemy Indians upon the Inhabitants of this Province, without the least Provocation given on our Part, and believing that to pursue and attack the Enemy in their own Towns and Villages will be the likeliest means, under God, of driving them from our Frontiers at the present, and preventing their barbarous Incursions for the future, Do propose to the Governor, as our Opinion, that it is necessary for this Province immediately to declare War against the Delawares and all other Enemy Indians, which, if he shall be pleased to do, we hereby, as much as in us lies, enable him to promise and pay the following Rewards to such as shall make captive or put to Death any of the said Enemy Indians, upon due Proof of its being done within the bounds of this Province, vis^{t}:

	Dollars.
"For every Male Indian Prisoner, above Ten Years old, that shall be delivered at any of the Government Forts or Towns - - - - - - - -	150
"For every Female Indian Prisoner, or Male Prisoner of Ten Years old and under, to be delivered as above -	130
"For the Scalp of every Male Indian above Ten Years old	130
"For the Scalp of every Indian Woman - -	50

"One Half of the above mentioned Rewards for the said Services to be allowed to any of the Forces in the Pay of the Province. We are, Sir,

"Your most obedient Servants,

"JOS. FOX,
"JAMES HAMILTON,
"EVAN MORGAN,
"JOHN MIFFLIN,
"JOHN HUGHES.

"To the Hon. ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esq^{r}."

The Indians desiring to be heard, they were called in, and before a large Number of People, who came on this Occasion into the Court House, Scarroyady delivered himself as follows:

"Brethren:

"It is but the other Day that we had the Happiness to see one another after a long and dangerous Journey, which I am sorry has had no better Effect, and that I could not bring you so good news as you expected. Our Nephews did not listen to us; they were not obedient to what was said to them. We are amazed to find you still sitting with your Hands between your Knees, and for an Apology for so unbecoming a Posture, you tell us, that, as the Delawares were Cousins of the Six Nations, you would first consult them, and chose not to act offensively till you should know their minds, as the Delawares are subject to them; you add, now that all means have been tried, and our Cousins are still disobedient, you at last find yourselves under a Necessity to declare War against them.

"Brethren:

"You have indeed tried all amicable Means with those and with the Six Nations, but as all have proved ineffectual, you do right to strike them. You have had a great deal of Patience; other People on losing a single man, would have armed and drove off the Foe; but you have sat still while numbers of your People have been and now are Murdered. We heartily approve of your Resolutions; awake, shake off your Lethargy; Stand up with your Hatchet in your Hand, and use it manfully. Your Enemies have got great advantage by your Inactivity; Show them you are Men.

"Brethren:

"You told us that you must now build a Fort at Shamokin; we are glad to hear it; it is a good Thing; These young Men are glad in their Hearts, and promise you their Assistance; and would have you go on with it as fast as you can, and others, too, will assist you, when they see you are in earnest. I have good Ground to go upon in what I say; I know what is in the Breasts and Minds of the Warriors of the Mohocks, Oneidas and Oneoquages;

they have opened their Hearts to me; they are under my command; they will do what I advise, and they shall see this your Belt of Wampum.

"Brethren:

"The Fort at Shamokin is not a thing of little Consequence; it is of the greatest Importance to us as well as you. Your People are foolish; for want of this Fort, the Indians, who are your friends, can be of no Service to you, having no Place to go to where they can promise themselves Protection. They cannot be called together; they can do nothing for you; they are not secure any where. At present your People cannot distinguish Foes from Friends; they think every Indian is against them; they blame us all without Distinction, because they see nobody appear for them; the common People to a Man entertain this notion, and insult us wherever we go. We bear their ill Usage, tho' very irksome; but all this will be set right when you have built the Fort, and you will see that we in particular are sincere, and many others will come to your assistance. We desire when the Fort is built, you will put into the Command of so important a Place some of your best People; grave, solid, and sensible Men, who are in Repute amongst you, and in whom we can place a Confidence. Do this, and you will soon see a Change in your Affairs for the better.

"Brethren:

"As we agree to take up the Hatchet and to come into all your Measures, we must advise you that in all your Steps you will act so as to be secure, and not go forwards for a while and then be obliged to go as far or farther back again, and that with Shame. Your People are foolish; they are extremely heavy, move slow, and are liable to surprizes, if you go by yourselves. We are a light Body; we can trip nimbly thro' the Woods, look over a large Extent of Country and see that all is clear, and no Enemy lying concealed to cut you off when you think nothing of it. We must likewise tell you not to make a trifling Peace. You have no doubt heard we are a People who never lay down our Arms; it is true our young People now tell you that they will fight whilst they can find one of the Enemy to fight with, so do not make a trifling Peace. Do yourselves and us Justice, and bring your Enemies to a due Sense of themselves, and to offer just Terms, and then, and not till then, think of a Peace. This is our Advice."

Here they danced the War Dance; the Indian called the Belt singing with a Belt in his hand.

Here the Interpreter said Scarroyady was going on a fresh matter, and said Indians change their Subject without giving notice or making any Apology; but it might be proper for him to acquaint the Governor that he was going to address him and the three Delawares that they had placed on Seats within the full view of him and the Council. Scarroyady addressing himself to the Governor and Delawares, and turning to them spoke in the following Manner, Andrew Montour interpreting what he said:

"We are glad to see some of our Cousins in this Town, and that they are safe and unhurt; we observe that they walk about the Streets as if they were of your own People and your Friends, and that they are so secure amongst you."

A String.

Then addressing the Governor he resumed his Speech, holding two Belts in his Hands.

"Brethren:

"In my Journey as I went thro' Oneoquago, Oneido, and the Mohock's Country, I was much sollicited by them to come and reside among them. They repeatedly said to me 'Father, we have lost all our old People; we have but few Counsellers left; We want some Men of Gravity and Experience to advise us and instruct us what to do against the common Enemy; we therefore entreat you will come and live with us; we will obey you in every thing you shall tell us to do; we will follow you wherever you go; you shall find us obedient Children to you.' In this manner they importuned me frequently; and at the Treaty at Fort Johnson these People all spoke to him to join with them in this Application, and to use his Interest with me, which he undertook to do, and he joined a Belt to theirs by which they renewed their Sollicitations. What they said I have already mentioned. Colonel Johnson, on his own part, spoke—'Father, a great many Indians have sollicited me very warmly to desire you will be a Captain among the Warriors and a Counsellor in their Councils, and I have considered well their applications, and do think it will be for the Interest of the Six Nations, and of Service to his Majesty and the Colonies, that you should gratify them, and remove to some principal Place in the Six Nation Country; and therefore, in behalf of the King of Great Britain and of the Colonies, I have joined a Belt to theirs, and do request you will remove up to some Place here and take upon you the Command of the Warriors and your Seat at the Council Fire, and afford them the assistance they desire, and which they want by the Death of their Chiefs.'" Here he separated the Belts, and gave Col. Johnson's Belt to the Governor.

"Brethren:

"Colonel Johnson will bear Witness that these Indians are your very good Friends, and have a good meaning in this Request to me. I shall not be far from you; we can always correspond with Ease; it is but a little way from where I intend to live to Shamokin. I now desire you will order an immediate Conveyance for us that are here, our Wives and Children, that we may get safe to Colonel Johnson. Clause, Montour, and Croghan, say they have a Call there, and they can, with your order, conduct us thro' the Journey."

Scarroyady addressing the Delawares, spoke:

"Cousins:

"One of the Reasons assigned by the Delawares to the Six Nations for their striking the English was, that they were ill used by the Inhabitants when they lived among them. Now this we knew at the Time was false, and you are living Witnesses to the contrary, and as such must come and bear your Testimony at the great Meeting which is to be held in June at Oswego, between the Six Nations and their Allies, and General Johnson. I give you notice of it and invite you to it, that you may confront this false Story and be living Evidence of the contrary, and that you may hear what is said at that great Meeting and give an account thereof to your People. It behoves you to be of good Behaviour, and give no offence to your Brethren, the English, nor to misrepresent them."

Gave a String.

Scarroyady held up two Belts and two Strings, tied endways to one another, and spoke again, but did not deliver them over.

"Cousins:

"One of these Belts was given us by the Governor of Virginia, to take up the Hatchet, we joined one of our own to it. We have made use of it, and now are going to make use of it again. You hear what our Brethren have said to us, and we to them; consider of it, and for the future go hand in hand with us. I have finished."

The Governor, after a little Pause, addressed the Indians: "I return you Thanks for the Zeal with which you have taken up the Hatchet. The war shall be prosecuted with all the Vigour I am able to inspire, and you shall not want any Assistance I am able to afford; I hope since you have joined with us in this necessary War, that the Blood of our Inhabitants will cease to run. As to other Matters, they shall be spoke of at another time."

The Governor sent the Secretary to the Assembly with the Act for regulating the Officers and Soldiers commissionated and raised by the Governor for the Defence of this Province, with a Message, that he adhered to his Amendments, and desired a Conference with the House in the Council Chamber, either this afternoon, or on Monday, as they should incline. They chose the afternoon, and accordingly a Conference was held; in which it appeared that the Committee, appointed to confer with his Honour on the Bill, were of Opinion, from the Reasons offered by the Governor, that his Amendments were just and ought to be agreed to.

The Returns of Several Companies of Foot Militia, in the Counties of York, Lancaster, and Bucks, were read, the Officers approved, and Commissions ordered to issue.

Two Returns of Companies in Bucks County, under the Association, were read and approved.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Monday the 12th April, 1756.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell,	Richard Peters,	Esquires.
William Logan,	Lynford Lardner,	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The several Indian Treaties and Deeds that have been made by the Delaware Indians with the government and Proprietaries were called for, and the Governor received Satisfaction in finding that the Delaware Nation were the subjects of his Majesty, and had submitted to and been tried by the Laws, and some of them sentenced to Death, and suffered in the presence and with the Consent of the other Indians.

The Draught of a Declaration of War was again considered, and some Difficulties arising about the manner of wording it, as to Indians and the Indian Country, Mr. Weiser was desired to consult Scarroyady as to this Part, and all the rest was prepared to be reconsidered in a full Council.

Several of the Strict and reputable Quakers presented an Address to the Governor, bearing their Testimony against War, expressing their apprehensions at this Declaration, and praying that amicable Methods might be further tried. Mr. Logan moved for a full Council to be called this Evening, and the Sumons's served instantly.

Several associated Companies of Foot Militia in the County of Bucks were read, and the Officers approved.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Monday the 12th April, 1756, P. M.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esq., Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell,	Richard Peters,	Esqrs.
Benjamin Shoemaker,	Lynford Lardner,	
William Till,	Benjamin Chew,	
Lawrence Growdon,	Thomas Cadwalader,	
William Logan,	John Mifflin,	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

from thence to Canada, if this can be prevented their Islands must feel great distress, as well as our nearer neighbours. I shall by the next Packet acquaint your Lordships with the success of my proposal. I hope soon to have the Forces raising in this Province for the Crown Point expedition, assembled at Albany

I have the honor to be
Your Lordships
most obedient and
humble servant
CHAS: HARDY

Report of a Deputation of the Onondagas.

[New-York Papers, Ll, No. 35.]

Fort Johnson 21 April 1756 A M

A Deputation from the Onondagas of Two Sachems, and 15 Warriors

Peter Wraxall Sec^ry
Arent Stephens Interp^r

Tioquanta speaker

Brother Warraghiyagey

We are very sorry for your late loss at the Carrying Place[1] and as we doubt not you are oppressed with grief on this occasion we do with this Belt of Wampum wipe away the Tears from your eyes and clear your throat that you may speak to us with ease and freedom, and we clean away the blood which hath been spilt that we may confer together with our usual confidence and satisfaction Gave a large Belt of Black Wampum

Brother

At our late public meeting you put the five Nations, in mind that the Delaware & Shawanese Indians were under their Government and direction, and you enjoined us to send them to express our Disapprobation and Resentment for the bloody Hostilities which they had and were dayly committing against our Brethren the English in those parts and that we should order them to cease from those Violences, and live in that Friendship and harmony with our Brethren the English as they were wont to do, and that they should turn the edge of their Hatchetts along with you and us against our common enemy the French & their Indians

We have been to them and delivered what you gave us in charge and we have succeeded by convincing them that they had acted very foolishly and very unjustifiably and they have promised and agreed to join their arms with us in Conjunction with you against our common enemys, but at the same time they ernestly desire that they may see and talk with you at Onondaga the Fire-place of the five Nations and that if you will meet them there it will convince them of your desire to live with them in Harmony and Friendship, and that you intend to behave to them as friends and allies and the five Nations join with them in this request as they propose to have a very great Meeting there and as the present times are so troublesome and the general welfare so precarious, we desire you will fix upon as early a day as possible to meet me at Onondaga. As this meeting will be of great importance to the Common Cause, we press upon you to be present at it, and that with as litttle delay as possible, and that we will bring your Neighbours the Mohowks of both Castles along with you. We would willingly now take you by the hand with us, but if this cannot be done we must beg you will tell us what day you will be at Onondaga that we may summons the Six Nations the Delawares & Shawanese and our several Allies to come punctually at the time you shall fix upon (delivered a Belt of Invitation)

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[1] Referring to the destruction of Fort Bull and its garrison, on Wood Creek, Oneida county, by a detachment of French and Indians, under the command of Lieutenant de Lery, on the 27th March, 1756. — ED.

Brother

With half of this Belt (holding one up) we put you in mind that as you have often told us, that we are one people and one family, we must now inform you, that as this meeting at Onondaga will be a very considerable, and at which will be present a great number of Indians of several Nations, we are by reason of the present situation of affairs (which requires our young men to be constantly in Arms attending the operations of our Brethren the English) very short of provision and by no means able to provide for such numbers as will come to this meeting, we therefore hope you will bring along with you some Provisions to assist us to support the many Indians who will assemble at Onondaga on this occasion

Brother

With the other half of this Belt we acquaint you that as you desired the Six Nations in General and we Onondagas in particular would have our eyes constantly fixed upon Oswego our Trading place, and keep out Scouts in order to discover and make known the motions and designs of the enemy—This we have constantly done and no sooner one scouting party comes in but we send out another and upon gaining any Intelligence immediately communicate it to the commanding officer at Oswego; and this we shall continue to do with our utmost zeal and Abilities, for Brother we are determined to live and die with our Brethreren the English. Now brother you know that arms & ammunition are not only the means of our Livelyhood and that by constant use they must be wearing out and expended, but more especially so at this time when they are constantly in our hands, and not only for our own maintenance but to assist our Brethren the English, we must therefore desire brother that you will bring along with you to this meeting at Onondaga a good supply of arms, Powder & Ball as things absolutely needful at this conjuncture, dont think brother we are so ernest upon this point with a view of private advantage, for we propose to use our arms and ammunition in conjunction with our Brethren the English against their and our enemies (Then gave the whole Belt)

21 April 1756

Sir William Johnson's Answer to the foregoing speech.

Peter Wraxall Sêcry
Arent Stevens Interp^{tr}

Bretheren of Onondaga

The condolence of your Nation on our late misfortune at the Carrying place is friendly and acceptable These things are the natural consequences of War and I hope they will animate both you and us with a laudable spirit of resentment

Bretheren

I am very glad to find that your remonstrances to the Delawares and Shawanese Indians have had the desired effects, and that they not only repent of their cruel and unjust behaviour towards their Bretheren the English but now perceive what is their true Interest and Duty & are disposed to join with you and us against the common enemy, agreeable to their request and your urgent desire I propose to come up to the intended meeting at Onondaga and to be there in twenty days from this day. There are several reasons which prevent my being able to go with you now, or to attend sooner, one of which is that I have been lately called three times to the German Flatts and Oneida carrying place, by which means I have a great deal of Business upon my hands which must be attended to before I can leave home again.

I shall give timely notice to the Mohawks of both castles to be ready to go when I call upon them.

Bretheren

I am sensible that at this time more especially you will not be able to find Provisions for such a number of Indians as will probably be at this meeting, and I shall therefore agreeable to your request take care to assist with a supply of Provisions

Bretheren

It gives me great pleasure to hear that you manifest that attention to your true Interest and my exhortations as to be duly watchful over the safety of your Trading place at Oswego, by keeping out constant scouting parties round it. I hope you will in this any by every other method continue to lett your and our enemys the French and their Indians see that you look upon the preservation of Oswego not only as a security to your own Castles, but as a place which your Honor and your Interest call upon you to protect from their incroaching attempts and that you will to the utmost of your power keep the road to it free and open

Bretheren

I well know how necessary arms and Ammunition are to you at all times, and more particularly so at this, and I shall do every thing in my power to obtain and bring with me as much and as good of the kind as I possibly can, but as several Armaments are now making throughout the Continent these important Articles are thereby rendred scarce, and difficult to be obtained and that I may have time to get the best & as large a quantity as I can purchase is another reason why I can not sooner meet you at Onondaga Gave a Belt.

To this the Speaker replyed

Brother Warraghiyagey

You have given us a very satisfactory answer to the several particulars we had in charge from our Castle. We are extreamly obliged to you for it and we shall punctually make our Report on our return. The Friendship between our Brethren the English and us, hath been of an ancient date, and a long continuance, and we can not more effectually distress our enemies than by stedfastly uniting ourselves together against them:

Sir William then told them that as he had promised their Nation at the late meeting that when the weather would permitt he would send people up to build them a Fort, this he now intended speedily to do and desired their people would agree upon a proper place to build it and hoped when the Workmen came up they would use them well and avoid any Quarrells or disagreements and that he would give a charge to the Workmen to behave well on their side.

Then the conference broke up

A true copy from the original
minutes examined by me
Peter Wraxall
Sêcry for Indian Affairs.

A true Copy examined by
Benj^n Barons Secry

Report of the Mohawk Delegates.

[New-York Papers, Ll., No. 36.]

Fort Johnson 22^d April 1756 P. M.

The Mohawk Delegates who were sent down to the River Indians waited upon Sir William Johnson and gave him the following account of their negociation

Brother Warraghiyagey

Our Delegates are returned from our Nephews the River Indians, and we are come to this our fire-place with them to give you a relation of their proceedings

Brother

Our Nephews were extreamly glad to see us & expressed their gratitude for our Invitation to them which they readily accepted of, and promised as soon as they could gather their people together, which they beleived would be next month they would remove hither & accept our offers. They said they had looked upon themselves as a people abandoned & were extreamly rejoiced to find their Uncles the Mohawks had not wholly forgott them, but had taken measures for their Wellfare and establishment and that previous to their removal they would despatch some of their young men forwards to give us notice of their coming

Hereupon Sir William answered

Bretheren of the lower Mohawk Castle

I thank you for the account you have given me of your Proceedings with your Nephews the River Indians, I approve thereof and am glad to find they have so readily and gratefully embraced your kind & prudent invitation. When they come and are incorporated with you I shall consider & treat them as Bretheren and assist them accordingly and I hope they will be an addition to your strength and Welfare.

A true Copy
Peter Wraxall
Sêcy for Indian Affairs

A true copy examined by
Benj^n Barons
Sec^ry.

Two Returns of Companies in Bucks County, under the Association, were read and approved.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Monday the 12th April, 1756.

PRESENT:

The Honourable **ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS**, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell,
William Logan,
Richard Peters,
Lynford Lardner,
Esquires.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The several Indian Treaties and Deeds that have been made by the Delaware Indians with the government and Proprietaries were called for, and the Governor received Satisfaction in finding that the Delaware Nation were the subjects of his Majesty, and had submitted to and been tried by the Laws, and some of them sentenced to Death, and suffered in the presence and with the Consent of the other Indians.

The Draught of a Declaration of War was again considered, and some Difficulties arising about the manner of wording it, as to Indians and the Indian Country, Mr. Weiser was desired to consult Scarroyady as to this Part, and all the rest was prepared to be reconsidered in a full Council.

Several of the Strict and reputable Quakers presented an Address to the Governor, bearing their Testimony against War, expressing their apprehensions at this Declaration, and praying that amicable Methods might be further tried. Mr. Logan moved for a full Council to be called this Evening, and the Sumons's served instantly.

Several associated Companies of Foot Militia in the County of Bucks were read, and the Officers approved.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Monday the 12th April, 1756, P. M.

PRESENT:

The Honourable **ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS**, Esq., Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell,
Benjamin Shoemaker,
William Till,
Lawrence Growdon,
William Logan,
Richard Peters,
Lynford Lardner,
Benjamin Chew,
Thomas Cadwalader,
John Mifflin,
Esqrs.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor having received an Address signed by Samuel Powell and others, on behalf of themselves and many others of the Society of Quakers, against his declaring War against our Enemy Indians, and Publishing a Proclamation for offering Rewards for Indian Prisoners and Scalps, the said Address was read and order'd to be enter'd; the Governor desired the Council's Advice whether he should postpone making the said Declaration of War, and previous to it take any Steps other than had been taken in order to come to amicable Measures with the Delawares. And after a full Narration of the several Steps that had been taken by the Governor, all the Council were satisfied that proper Measures had been taken and fully taken, and after full Consideration and Debate, all the Council (except Mr. Logan, who desired his Dissent might be entered on the Minutes), agreed that the Governor ought not to delay declaring War against the Enemy Indians; that it was absolutely necessary and should be done in the morning, if his Honour could get Scarroyady's Answer Time enough. The Bounties for Prisoners and Scalps were then considered and agreed to.

Then were read the last Indian Minutes, which the Secretary was order'd to carry to the House when they met again.

It was then debated whether the Governor should consult the Assembly before issuing the Declaration of War; it was unanimously agreed that his Honour should consult them afterwards, but not before.

"*To ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania, &ca.*

"*The Humble Address of some of the People called Quakers, residing in the city of Philadelphia, on behalf of themselves and many others:*

"With hearts sorely distressed and deeply affected with the Calamities of our Fellow-Subjects, and painfully apprehensive of the impending Desolations consequent of an Indian War, we address the Governor, and earnestly intreat thy favorable Attention on this solemn and important Conjuncture, in which the Lives and Liberties of the People of this Province are so nearly concerned.

"We have, with the most sensible Concern and Pain of Mind, observed the sorrowful Alteration in the State of this late peaceful Province, now become the Theatre of Bloodshed and Rapine, and distressed by the cruel Devastations of a barbarous Enemy, which justly excites the most agravating Reflections in every considerate Mind; yet, when we consider that all Wars are attended with fatal Consequences, and one with Enemies so savage as those who have now become ours, with Circumstances the most shocking and dreadful, we cannot omit beseeching that before the Resolution of declaring War against them be carried into Execution, some further attempts may be made by pacific Measures to reduce them to a Sense of their Duty, and that a farther opportunity may be offered to such as may be willing to separate from those who have been the wicked Instruments of perverting them.

"The Settlement of this Province was founded on the Principles of Truth, Equity, and Mercy, and the Blessing of Divine Providence attended the early Care of the first Founders to impress these Principles on the Minds of the Native Inhabitants, so that when their Numbers were great and their Strength vastly Superior, they received our Ancestors with Gladness, relieved their Wants with open Hearts, granted them peaceable Possession of the Land, and for a long Course of Time gave constant and frequent Proofs of a cordial Friendship, all which we humbly ascribe to the infinite Wisdom and Goodness of God, 'whose Hand is for good upon all them that seek him,' and as the Angelic Acclamation of 'Glory to God in the Highest, Peace on Earth and Good Will to Men,' with which the Birth of our Lord Jesus Christ was published, and the Example and Precepts which he, as the Prince of Peace, gave through the Course of his personal Appearance on Earth, have given us undoubted Assurance that the day is dawn'd in which his peaceable Reign will be exalted and gradually become universal; we cannot, without Neglect of our Duty and sacrificing the Peace of Conscience we prefer to every temporal Blessing, omit reviving our Testimony in this Time of Probation, that all Wars appear to us contrary to the Nature and End of the Gospel Dispensation, and that we, as a People, still firmly believe that on an humble and Steady Acquiescence with the Dispensations of Divine Providence, our real Protection and Security depends, from which no temporal Inconveniences and Difficulties can Justify our departing; yet, while we earnestly desire all may attain this happy Experience, we do not presume to prescribe, but as our Minds feel more than our Words can express, of Pain and Anxiety for our Brethren and Fellow Christians, whose Desolations we fear will be increased and perpetuated by a hasty Declaration of War, we find ourselves obliged to beseech the Governor to resume the most weighty, serious, and religious Deliberations on this melancholy Occasion, that so every Measure which hath been pursued, and whatever remains possible to be done to prevent so fatal and lamentable an Extremity, may be strictly and impartially reviewed and considered, that full Enquiry may be made whether some Apprehensions these Indians have concieved of a Deviation from the Integrity of Conduct towards them, so conspicuous in the first Establishment, may not unhappily have contributed in some Degree to the Alteration of their Conduct towards us.

"That full Time may be allowed for those Indians who still remain well affected towards us, to use and report the Effect of their Endeavours to reconcile our Enemies, and that proper Care may be taken to prevent our Allies being, thro' the Misconduct of evil Dispositions of any, injured in such manner as to provoke them likewise to turn their Arms against us, and that the Governor's Care to guard against involving the innocent with the Guilty, may carry so clear Demonstration of Christian Tenderness and aversion to shedding Blood, that an Evidence may be given to the Minds of the neighbouring Indians which may engage them heartily and sincerely to assist in the desireable work of restoring Peace and Tranquility; towards which all the Measures hitherto taken seem to have contributed little good Effect. We, therefore, with Sincerity and Fervency, pray that the Calamities may be averted, which will ensue on a continued War with these Savages, some of the melancholy Effects of which the Annals of a neigbouring Province, full of the most warlike People, have testified; and as the Fear of God, Honour of the King, and Love of our Brethren and Fellow Christians, are the Motives which have engaged us to make this Address, we hope to demonstrate by our Conduct that every Occasion of assisting and relieving the distressed, and contributing towards the obtaining Peace in a manner consistent with our peaceable Profession, will be chearfully improved by us, and even tho' a much larger Part of our Estates should be necessary than the heaviest taxes of a War can be expected to require, we shall chearfully, by voluntary Grants, evidence our Sincerity herein. May the Mind of the Governor be endued with that Wisdom which the wisest of Kings experienced to be better than Weapons of War, and may thy Councils be directed to the Honour of God and Good of the People over whom thou presidest, is our sincere Desire and Prayer.

"Sign'd on behalf and at the Request of many of our Brethren, by

"SAM$^{L.}$ POWELL,
"ANTH$^{o.}$ MORRIS,
"JOHN REYNELL,
"SAM$^{L.}$ PRESTON MOORE,
"ISR. PEMBERTON,
"JOHN SMITH.

"Philadelphia, the 12th 4 m$^{o.}$ 1756."

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Tuesday the 13th April, 1756.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

William Till,
Benjamin Shoemaker,
Lawrence Growdon,
Richard Peters,
John Mifflin,
Robert Strettell,
William Logan,
Joseph Turner,
Benjamin Chew,
Thomas Cadwalader,
Esquires.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor informed the Council that he had this Day at noon received Letters from Lancaster, containing Intelligence of a great Body of the Inhabitants of the Back Counties being to meet there and proceed to this City, with design to force the Governor and Assembly to pass some Laws that they have prepared for that Purpose; which proceeding being of very dangerous Consequence to the Peace and Constitution of the Government, the Governor ordered the Letters to be read, and then desired the Council's Advice.

The Council were of different Opinions as to what was proper to be done with the People; but all agreed that the Governor should lay the Matter before the Assembly, which was done in the following Message:

"Gentlemen:

"I have this Day received Information that a Number of People from the Back Counties, Inhabitants, have resolved to meet at Lancaster on the Sixteenth Instant, and thence proceed to this City to make some Demands of the Legislature now sitting.

"As Attempts of this kind may be dangerous to the King's Peace and the Authority of the Legislature, I think proper to give you this timely notice of it, and, by the Advice of the Council, shall give immediate Orders to the Provincial and other Magistrates to use their utmost Endeavours to prevent the mischiefs that may attend so extraordinary a Procedure.

"ROB$^{T.}$ H. MORRIS.

"Philadelphia, April 13th, 1756."

The Governor likewise wrote to the Justices of the Supream Court and to the Magistrates of the City of Philadelphia, and it was left under consideration what further Steps to take.

Mr. Weiser came and informed the Governor that Scarroyady had been in Liquor two Days, and was incapable of being conferred with.

MEMORANDUM.

On the Fourteenth Instant, the Proclamation of War against the Delawares was published at the Court House in the Presence of the Council, Supream Judges, Magistrates, Officers, &ca. and a large Concourse of People, and is as follows:

"*By the Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Province of Pennsylvania, and Counties of New Castle, Kent, and Sussex, upon Delaware:*

"A PROCLAMATION.

"*Whereas*, the Delaware tribe of Indians, and others in Confederacy with them, have for some Time past, without the least Provocation, and contrary to their most Solemn Treaties, fallen upon this Province and in a most cruel, savage, and prefidious Manner, killed and butchered great Numbers of the Inhabitants, and carried others into barbarous Captivity; burning and destroying their Habitations, and laying waste the Country. *And Whereas*, notwithstanding the friendly Remonstrances made to them by this Government, and the Interposition and positive Orders of our faithful Friends and allies the Six Nations, to whom they owe Obedience and Subjection, requiring and commanding them to desist from any further Acts of Hostility against us, and to return to their Allegiance, the said Indians do still continue their cruel Murders and Ravages, sparing neither age nor Sex; I have, therefore, by and with the Advice and consent of the Council, thought fit to issue this Proclamation; and do hereby declare the said Delaware Indians, and all others who, in Conjunction with them, have committed Hostilities against His Majesty's Subjects within this Province, to be Enemies, Rebels, and Traitors to His Most Sacred Majesty; And I do hereby require all his Majesty's Subjects of this Province, and earnestly invite those of the neighbouring Provinces to embrace all Opportunities of pursuing, taking, killing, and destroying the said Delaware Indians and all others confederated with them in committing Hostilities, Incursions, Murders, or Ravages upon this Province. *And Whereas*, sundry of our good Friends and Allies the Six Nations, and other friendly Indians, are seated upon and do inhabit the Country to the Northward of the Mouth of a River falling into the Sasquehannah, called Cayuga Branch, and those of the Six Nations now in Town have desired that our Hostilities against the said Enemy Indians might not, therefore, be carried on more Northerly than a Line extending from the Mouth of the said Cayuga Branch, at an Indian Town called Diahoga, or Tohiccon, to the Station Point between the Provinces of New York and Jersey, at the Indian Town called Cashetunk, upon Delaware; the said Indians promising us their hearty and best Assistance. I do, therefore, hereby declare that the Indians living and being to the Northward of a Line drawn from the Mouth of the said Cayuga Branch to the said Station Point are not included in this Declaration of War.

"*And Whereas*, many Delaware and other Indians abhorring the ungrateful, cruel, and perfidious Behaviour of that Part of the Delaware Tribe and others that have been concerned in the late inhuman Ravages, have removed into the settled and inhabited Parts of the Country, put themselves under the Protection of this and the neighbouring Governments, and live in a peaceable Manner with the King's Subjects; *I do therefore declare*, that the said friendly Indians that have so separated themselves from our said Enemies, and all others who shall join or act with us in the Prosecution of this just and necessary War, are expressly excepted out of this Declaration, and it is recommended to all Officers and others to afford them Protection and Assistance. *And Whereas*, the Commissioners appointed with me to dispose of the Sixty Thousand Pounds lately granted by Act of General Assembly for His Majesty's Use, have, by their Letter to me of the Tenth Instant, agreed to pay out of the same the several Rewards for Prisoners and Scalps herein after specified; and, therefore, as a further Inducement and Encouragement to all his Majesty's Liege People, and to all the several Tribes of Indians who continue in Friendship and Alliance with us, to exert and use their utmost Endeavour to pursue, attack, take, and destroy our said Enemy Indians, and to release, redeem, and recover such of his Majesty's Subjects as have been taken and made Prisoners by the same Enemies; *I do* hereby declare and promise, that there shall be paid out of the said Sixty Thousand Pounds to all and every Person and Persons, as well Indians as Christians not in the Pay of the Province, the several and respective Premiums and Bounties following, that is to say: For every Male Indian Enemy above Twelve Years Old who shall be taken Prisoner and deliver'd at any Forts garrisoned by the Troops in the Pay of this Province, or at any of the County Towns to the Keepers of the common Jails there, the Sum of One Hundred and Fifty Spanish Dollars or Pieces of Eight; For the Scalp of every Male Indian Enemy above the age of Twelve Years, produced as Evidence of their being killed, the Sum of One Hundred and Thirty Pieces of Eight; For every Female Indian taken Prisoner and brought in as aforesaid, and for every Male Indian Prisoner under the Age of Twelve Years taken and brought in as aforesaid, One Hundred and Thirty Pieces of Eight; For the Scalp of every Indian Woman, produced as Evidence of their being killed, the Sum of Fifty Pieces of Eight; And for every English Subject that has been taken and carried from this Province into Captivity that shall be recovered and brought in and delivered at the City of Philadelphia to the Governor of this Province, the Sum of one Hundred and Fifty Pieces of Eight, but nothing for their Scalps; And that there shall be paid to every Officer or Soldier as are or shall be in the

Pay of this Province who shall redeem and deliver any English Subject carried into Captivity as aforesaid, or shall take, bring in, and produce any Enemy Prisoner, or Scalp as aforesaid, one-half of the said several and respective Premiums and Bounties.

"*Given* under my Hand and the Great Seal of the Province, at Philadelphia, the Fourteenth Day of April, in the Twenty-Ninth Year of His Majesty's Reign, and in the Year of our Lord One Thousand Seven Hundred and Fifty-Six.

"ROB$^{T.}$ H. MORRIS.

"By His Honour's Command,

"RICHARD PETERS, Secretary.

"GOD SAVE THE KING."

MEMORANDUM.

On the said Fourteenth of April, in the afternoon, Scarroyady and the Indians visited the Governor, and desired Mr. Weiser might be sent for. He came with Reluctance, and then Scarroyady acquainted the Governor that he proposed to depart for the Six Nation Country in three Days, and take all the Women with him, and all the Men except three, Aroas, Seneca George, and Cassiowca or Newcastle, and desired a safe Conveyance, and that Passports might be provided for them. He expressed the Joy it would give the Relations and Friends of the Women and Children to see them after so long an Absence, and that it would give them at the same time an high Opinion of the Goodness of the Inhabitants of Pennsylvania, whose Commendations he should think himself obliged to publish. He repeatedly said he would serve this Province on all occasions; that all the Oneidos were at his Comand, as well as the Mohocks and Oneocquagos; that he was in very great Repute among these three Nations, and would use all his Interest with them in favour of this Province; That when the Fort should be built at Shamokin he would return with a Number of Warriors and help us.

On the same Day Two Members waited on the Governor, and desired to know if he had come to any Determination respecting the Bills now before him; his Honour was pleased to say that he had referred the Watch and Lamp Bill to his Council, who had not yet made their report, and that he did not look upon the Excise Bill as properly before him, because the House had not returned his proposed Amendments with it. The same members likewise delivered to the Governor the following Message from the House:

"May it please the Governor:

"So extraordinary a Procedure as 'the Meeting of a Number of People from the Back Counties to make Demands of the Legislature now sitting,' which the Governor has been pleased to give us Notice of, is truly surprising to us, considering the real Concern and great Care that has been demonstrated for their Protection and Security, by granting such large Sums of Money, and passing such Laws as, in our Judgment, are most suitable to those Purposes, and most consistent with the Just Rights of our Constituents. But, altho' we are at a Loss to find out any Reason for this extraordinary Procedure from any Part of our Conduct; if the Governor shall think fit to lay before us the Information he has received upon this Occasion, we may possibly be able to form some Judgment of their Views or Designs, or wherein they apprehend themselves either aggrieved or neglected.

"And as we are apprized of the Danger these People may involve themselves in, from the Acts of Parliament brought over and enforced within this Province, by an Act passed in the Fourth Year of the late Queen Ann, to the Penalties of which this Part of our Inhabitants may unhappily subject themselves, without a due Sense of the Extent and Severity of those Acts; We therefore thank the Governor for the Orders he has assured us he will immediately give to the Provincial and other Magistrates to exert themselves, and prevent the Mischiefs that may attend their conduct, if they should unhappily continue their Resolution of coming down to this city to make any Demands upon the Legislature in a Manner inconsistent with our Constitution.

"Sign'd by Order of the House.

"ISAAC NORRIS, Speaker.

"April 14th, 1756."

At a Council held in the Council Chamber, Thursday the 15th April, 1756.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

James Hamilton,	Robert Strettell,	Esquires.
Lawrence Growdon,	Joseph Turner,	
Lynford Lardner,	Richard Peters,	
John Mifflin,		

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor sent the Secretary to the House with the following Message:

"Gentlemen:

"The Indians have this Afternoon been with me, and given me Notice by Scarroyady, that they intend to move in three Days with

Conduct, if they should unhappily continue their Resolution of coming down to this City, to make any Demands upon the Legislature in a Manner inconsistent with our Constitution.

Signed, by Order of the House,
April 14th: 1756. Isaac Norris, Speaker

At a Council held in the Council Chamber Thursday the 15th: April 1756.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

James Hamilton
Lawrence Growdon
Lynford Lardner
John Mifflin
Robert Strettell }
Joseph Turner } Esquires
Richard Peters }

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor sent the Secretary to the House with the following Meſsage.

Gentlemen,

The Indians have this Afternoon been with me, and given me Notice by Scarroyady, that they intend to move in three Days with their Wives and Children to the Country of the Six Nations, leaving Newcastle and two more to go with our Forces to Shamokin; and demanding of me the neceſsary Conveyances and Supports. I was much surprised at this Resolution; to which, by Advice of Mr. Weiser, I gave no other Answer, but that I would, when every thing was ready, send for them, and take my Leave. I am fearful some Discontent has given Rise to this sudden Resolution, tho I know of no Reason they can have for it: However, if we cannot prevail on them to act with us (which I have directed Mr. Weiser to endeavour) it will be neceſsary to reward Scarroyady and Mr. Montour for their Trouble and Services to their Satisfaction, to send the others away well satisfied, and to give those that continue with us good Encouragement.

You will therefore give the neceſsary Directions for furnishing what may be proper upon this Occasion.

April 15th: 1756. Robt. H. Morris

Last Night a Meſsage was sent to the Governor by Two Members to inform him, that the House had agreed to his Amendments of the Bill, intituled, an Act for regulating the Officers and Soldiers commiſsionated and raised by the Governor for the Defence of this Province, and that the same was ingroſsed, and desired to know when he would appoint a Time to receive the House, to paſs it into a Law. The Governor appointed this morning at eleven o'Clock; and after it had been compared by Mr. Peters and Mr. Lardner with Two of the Members, the Secretary waited on the House to acquaint them, that the Governor was now in the Council Chamber, ready to receive the House, to paſs the said Bill into a Law. Accordingly the Speaker with the whole House attended on the Governor, and the Bill was enacted into a Law; and Mr. Lardner and Mr. Mifflin were appointed to see the Great Seal affixed thereto, and then to lodge it in the Rolls Office, which was done.

THEN the Governor drew a Meſsage to the House, acquainting them with the Proclamation of War published yesterday, which was approved and sent to the House by the Secretary, in these Words.

Gentlemen,

The many and great Cruelties, committed upon His Majesty's Subjects within this Province by the Delaware Tribe of Indians, and the little Regard they have paid to the Meſsages sent them by our Friends and Allies the Six Nations, are sufficient to convince us, that they have put themselves under the Protection of the French, and will no longer regard their Treaties with us, or submit to the Six Nations, to whom they owe Obedience.

I have therefore thought proper, by and with the Advice of the Council, to declare War against them, and all such as have, in Conjunction with them, committed Hostilities against the Inhabitants of this Province; and the Commiſsioners appointed to dispose of the Sixty Thousand Pounds, given to the King's Use, having, by their Letter of the Tenth Instant, proposed to me, to offer certain Rewards for the taking of Indian Prisoners and Scalps, and promised, as far as in them lay, to enable me to pay the same, I have, by Proclamation, notified this to the People, and invited them and our Friendly Indians to make use of every Opportunity of pursuing, taking, and destroying the said Enemy Indians.

But as great Part of the Sixty Thousand Pounds is already expended, and what remains will very soon be consumed in maintaining the Troops posted on the Frontiers, and other neceſsary Services, I recommend it to you, Gentlemen, to grant such further Supplies, as may be neceſsary to carry on the War with Vigour, upon the Succeſs of which, the future Peace and Safety of the Inhabitants of this Province will very much depend.

Robt. H. Morris

April 15th: 1756.

THEN the Governor informed the Council, that he had sent Mr. Chew, Mr. Stedman, Mr. West and Mr. Edward Shippen Junr. to the People that might be aſsembled at Lancaster, to persuade them to desist, and send Deputies and Orders to keep the Peace; and that he had wrote to the Justices of Chester and Lancaster Counties, recommending it to them to be careful that the King's Peace might not be disturbed by so uncommon a Meeting.

THEN were read Returns of several Companies of Foot Militia in the several Counties, the Officers approved, and Commiſsions ordered to iſsue.

Memorandum. On the Sixteenth Instant Two Members waited on the Governor from the House, and delivered to him the two following Meſsages; and at the same Time informed his Honour, that the House inclined to adjourn to the Twenty Fourth Day of May next; and gave him a Copy of his proposed Amendments to the Excise Bill: The Governor told them, he had no Objection to their proposed Time of Adjournment, but that he expected the House would have gone upon the Plan of Operations for the ensuing Campaign, but as they had not thought proper to make any Preparations for executing it, it must lie at their Door; and that he would consider the Indian Trade and Excise Bills against their next Meeting.

A Meſsage to the Governor from the Aſsembly.

May it please the Governor,

The House are of Opinion, that the Act for granting Sixty Thousand Pounds for the King's Use, in November last, has so fully provided for defraying our Indian Expences, under the present unhappy Circumstances of Indian Affairs, that the Gentlemen Commiſsioners, appointed by Vertue of that Act, will chearfully out of that Money reward Scarroyady and Andrew Montour, and furnish what else may be proper on the Occasion the Governor has been pleased to recommend to us in his first Meſsage of the fifteenth Instant; and we beg Leave to add, that it would be very agreeable to us, whenever these our friendly Indians do go, that they may all go away satisfied; and that Scarroyady and Andrew Montour particularly, may be made sensible of our Justice towards them, and the due Sense we have of their Trouble, and the Services they have done in behalf of this Province.

"That great Part of the Sixty Thousand Pounds so lately granted is already expended, and that what remains will be very soon consumed in maintaining the Troops posted on the Frontiers, and other neceſsary Services" as the Governor informs us in his second Meſsage of the same Date, is what we know not how to help or avoid; but as the Aſseſsment for sinking the Bills of Credit, iſsued in Pursuance of the said Act, is not yet laid or levied, and a great Part of that Money is still in Hand, we cannot think it will be of use at this Time to lay an additional Load of Taxes upon the Inhabitants, as we shall very soon meet again upon the Adjournment now so absolutely neceſsary to our private Affairs, having waited long for the Governor's Answers to the Bills which we have laid before him.

The Bill for regulating the Indian Trade, we earnestly recommend to his serious Consideration, as we judge it a Bill of great Importance, if hereafter we should procure a Settlement at Shamokin, to conciliate the Minds of the Indians yet unfixed in their Resolutions, and confirming those already in Alliance with us, by supplying them with such Goods and other Things they may have Occasion for, on the easiest Terms, at the Charge, and under the immediate Inspection, of the Government.

Signd, by Order of the House,

April 16th. 1756. Isaac Norris, Speaker.

A

A Message to the Governor from the Assembly.

May it please the Governor,

Ever since we received the Governor's Message of the Fourth of March last, relating to the putting a Stop to the Exportation of Provisions, in order to prevent a Scarcity within this Province, we have had that Matter under our serious Deliberation; and now, after a full Enquiry into the Circumstances of the Country, in the Particulars recommended to us, we hope, that under the common Course of God's good Providence, with which he has hitherto been graciously pleased to bless us, no considerable Dangers or Inconveniences may arise from referring the further Consideration of it to our next Meeting, at which Time we may be better able to judge of the Expediency or Necessity of such a Prohibition, or what other Means in our Power may best answer the Ends proposed.

16th. April 1756.

Signd, by Order of the House,
Isaac Norris, Speaker.

Memorandum. On the Seventeenth, the Governor had several Conferences with Mr. Weiser, the Indians and the Commissioners about the Indian Presents, Rewards of Scarroyady and Montour, and other Matters. A Belt was given to the old Indian, called the Belt, and his Wife's Son, Aroas, to engage them to return to live at Shamokin.

Mr. Clause was desired by the Governor to inlist Men, and he offered him the Commission of a Captain, intending him the Command of Indians as well as his Company. Mr. Clause made several Objections, but the principal Reason he gave against it was, that, by doing this, he should disoblige the Indians, who expected him to join with them this Campaign, to revenge Hendricks Death; and, as he was not immediately wanted here, he could, by keeping with the Indians establish a better Interest with the Six Nations. Mr. Clause assured Mr. Peters, that he would always consider himself as in the Service of the Proprietaries, and, at any time, when wanted, he would chearfully come and do their Business. The Governor took this Refusal amiss of Mr. Clause, and believed him to be insincere in these Professions, and would not after this admit him to his Sight.

It was agreed that Newcastle's Child at Taafes should be taken care of at the Expence of the Government.

Memorandum. On the Twentieth, the Indians had a long Conference with the Governor. They put Andrew Montour's Children under his Care, as well the three that are here, to be independent of the Mother, as a Boy of twelve Years old that he had by a former Wife, a Delaware, a Grand Daughter of Allomipis. They added, that he had a Girl among the Delawares, called Ihayadaghscroony, or Madelina, and desired she might be distinguished, enquired after, and sent for, which was promised.

At

ture now sitting,' which the Governor has been pleased to give us Notice of, is truly surprising to us, considering the real Concern and great Care that has been demonstrated for their Protection and Security, by granting such large Sums of Money, and passing such Laws as, in our Judgment, are most suitable to those Purposes, and most consistent with the Just Rights of our Constituents. But, altho' we are at a Loss to find out any Reason for this extraordinary Procedure from any Part of our Conduct; if the Governor shall think fit to lay before us the Information he has received upon this Occasion, we may possibly be able to form some Judgment of their Views or Designs, or wherein they apprehend themselves either aggrieved or neglected.

"And as we are apprized of the Danger these People may involve themselves in, from the Acts of Parliament brought over and enforced within this Province, by an Act passed in the Fourth Year of the late Queen Ann, to the Penalties of which this Part of our Inhabitants may unhappily subject themselves, without a due Sense of the Extent and Severity of those Acts; We therefore thank the Governor for the Orders he has assured us he will immediately give to the Provincial and other Magistrates to exert themselves, and prevent the Mischiefs that may attend their conduct, if they should unhappily continue their Resolution of coming down to this city to make any Demands upon the Legislature in a Manner inconsistent with our Constitution.

"Sign'd by Order of the House.

"ISAAC NORRIS, Speaker.

"April 14th, 1756."

At a Council held in the Council Chamber, Thursday the 15th April, 1756.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

James Hamilton,
Lawrence Growdon,
Lynford Lardner,
John Mifflin,
Robert Strettell,
Joseph Turner,
Richard Peters, } Esquires.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor sent the Secretary to the House with the following Message:

"Gentlemen:

"The Indians have this Afternoon been with me, and given me Notice by Scarroyady, that they intend to move in three Days with their Wives and Children to the Country of the Six Nations, leaving Newcastle and two more to go with our Forces to Shamokin, and demanding of me the necessary Conveyances and Passports. I was much surprized at this Resolution, to which, by Advice of Mr. Weiser, I gave no other Answer, but that I would, when every thing was ready, send for them, and take my Leave. I am fearful some Discontent has given Rise to this sudden Resolution, tho' I know of no Reason they can have for it: However, if we cannot prevail on them to act with us (which I have directed Mr. Weiser to endeavour), it will be necessary to reward Scarroyady and Mr. Montour for their Trouble and Service to their Satisfaction, to send the others away well satisfied, and to give those that continue with us good Encouragement.

"You will therefore give the necessary Direction for furnishing what may be proper upon this Occasion.

"ROB$^{T.}$ H. MORRIS.

"April 15th, 1756."

Last Night a Message was sent to the Governor by two Members, to inform him that the House had agreed to his Amendments of the Bill intituled "An Act for regulating the Officers and Soldiers Commissionated and raised by the Governor for the Defence of this Province," and that the Same was ingrossed, and desired to know when he would appoint a Time to receive the House, to pass it into a Law. The Governor appointed this morning at Eleven o'Clock; and after it had been compared by Mr. Peters and Mr. Lardner, with Two of the Members, the Secretary waited on the House to acquaint them that the Governor was now in the Council Chamber ready to receive the House, to pass the Said Bill into a Law. Accordingly, the Speaker, with the whole House, attended on the Governor, and the Bill was enacted into a Law, and Mr. Lardner and Mr. Mifflin were appointed to see the Great Seal affixed thereto, and then to lodge it in the Roll's Office, which was done.

Then the Governor drew a Message to the House, acquainting them with the Proclamation of War published yesterday, which was approved and sent to the House by the Secretary, in these Words:

"Gentlemen:

"The many and great Cruelties committed upon His Majesty's Subjects within this Province by the Delaware Tribe of Indians, and the little Regard they have paid to the Messages sent them by our Friends and Allies, the Six Nations, are sufficient to convince us that they have put themselves under the Protection of the French, and will no longer regard their Treaties with us or submit to the Six Nations, to whom they owe Obedience.

"I have, therefore, thought proper, by and with the Advice of the Council, to declare War against them and all such as have in Conjunction with them committed Hostilities against the Inhabitants of this Province, and the Commissioners appointed to dispose of the Sixty Thousand Pounds given to the King's Use having, by their Letter of the Tenth Instant, proposed to me to offer certain Rewards for the taking of Indian Prisoners and Scalps, and promised as far as in them lay to enable me to pay the same, I have, by Proclamation, notified this to the People, and invited them and our Friendly Indians to make use of every Opportunity of pursuing, taking, and destroying the said Enemy Indians.

"But as great Part of the Sixty Thousand Pounds is already expended, and what remains will very soon be consumed in maintaining the Troops posted on the Frontiers and other necessary Services, I recommend it to you, Gentlemen, to grant such further Supplies as may be necessary to carry on the War with Vigour, upon the Success of which the future Peace and Safety of the Inhabitants of this Province will very much depend.

"ROBT. H. MORRIS.

"April 15th, 1756."

Then the Governor informed the Council that he had sent Mr. Chew, Mr. Stedman, Mr. West, and Mr. Edward Shippen, Junr. to the People that might be assembled at Lancaster to persuade them to desist, and send Deputies and Orders to keep the Peace, and that he had wrote to the Justices of Chester and Lancaster Counties, recommending it to them to be careful that the King's Peace might not be disturbed by so uncommon a Meeting.

Then were read Returns of several Companies of Foot Militia in the several Counties, the Officers approved, and Commissions ordered to issue.

MEMORANDUM.

On the Sixteenth Instant Two Members waited on the Governor from the House and delivered to him the two following Messages, and at the same Time informed his Honour that the House inclined to adjourn to the Twenty-Fourth Day of May next, and gave him a Copy of his proposed Amendments to the Excise Bill. The Governor told them he had no Objection to their proposed time of Adjournment, but that he expected the House would have gone upon the Plan of Operations for the ensuing Campaign, but as they had not thought proper to make any Preparations for executing it, it must lie at their Door, and that he would consider the Indian Trade and Excise Bills against their next Meeting:

A Message to the Governor from the Assembly.

"May it please the Governor:

"The House are of Opinion that the Act for granting Sixty Thousand Pounds for the King's use in November last has so fully

Copy.

Sir; Fort George New York 16th April 1756.

I am favoured with your Letter of the 5th by which I see from the resolution of your Commissioners, the Proposals I had the Honour to make you for Attacking the Indians, by a joint Force of our Provinces & New Jersey, is at an end; as it must be too late to make such an Attempt after the Fort you propose Building at Shamokin is compleated. Had this Service been undertaken in due Season, I trust by a vigorous pursuit, and Attack of those Indians in their places of abode, and retreat, they might soon have been obliged to have sued for a Peace, Under this Consideration I pleased myself in the hopes that your Commissioners would have accepted the Assistance offered by this and the Province of New Jersey.

By a Letter of the 5th Instant from Sir William Johnson, he tells me that he hears 300 Warriors of the Delawares &c. appeared at the Meeting at Otsiningo, and told the Delegates of the Six Nations that they would agreeable to their desire lay down the Hatchet provided their Chief Men were willing, their Resolutions Sir William had not received. None of their Chief Men attending that meeting, and the Answer of their Young men appears Evasive, I have wrote Sir William Johnson very pressingly upon it, and desired him to urge the Six Nations to take some speedy

The Honble Governor Morris

and Vigorous Resolutions with reguard to the Delawares; when receiv their Determinations I shall Communicate them to you.

The Connection between the Delawares and the Indians of the Six Nations, makes it difficult for me to offer you my thoughts on your Declaring War with the Delawares, upon the whole I should not think it adviseable till we know what Steps they have, and will further take with their Nephews. I have wrote Sir William Johnson on this Subject; and if on his further preſsing this matter to the Indians, they should decline chastiseing their Dependants. I should Judge they would give them up to be punished, in either of which Cases a declaration of War in my opinion will not only be Justifiable but neceſsary. But then the principal means of carrying on such a War is wanting, by having no Law to Subject your forces to Military Discipline, and while Officers and Soldiers can take a Liberty of deserting their Stations, whenever the Service becomes disagreable. Your Numbers will not avail you, nor can Forts be maintained.

By late advices from the West Indias, we learn the French Islands are in Want of Provisions, and I hope Canada may be in no better State, and that their Ports are open to Ships of all Nations with such supplies; The Trade carried on by these Colonies to the Dutch Islands &c. will not only supply the French Islands, but will doubtleſs encourage them to attempt throwing in large Quantit

to

Louisburg from whence Canada may easily be furniſhed It apprs.
to me absolutely neceſsary to prevent all Supplies of Provisions
going from these Colonies at this time, and the only method to
answer this good purpose, must be by proper Laws paſsed in the
Provision Colonies Prohibiting such an Exportation. The Aſsembly
of this Province are to meet ſoon, when I shall recommend to them
to Paſs such a Law, which if they should come into, will not prevent
the Enemys being Supplied in the manner abovementioned, without
the Neighbouring Governments concur in the ſame measure. I have
made this Proposal to them, and beg leave to recommend it to your
consideration, and beg your thoughts upon it, and the resolutions of
of your Aſsembly if you think proper to recommend it to them.—

April the 18. Yesterday I received several Letters from Albany and
Sir William Johnson. Inclosing me Copies of others from Colonel Mercer
and Captain Williams at the Great Carrying place, informing me
that a Body of French and Indians have Posted themselves and
are Surrounded with Pickets about twelve Miles to the Eastward
of Oswego, and that Colonel Mercer has further information from
some Indians, that another Body of Indians &ca. are on their March
from Niagara, which together with the first mentioned are to form
an Attack on Oswego. This is the Substance of my Information.

with respect to the motions of the Enemy, General Shirley's Absence and great distance from the Scene of Action, makes it impoſsible for him to give the proper Orders in due time to stop the Progreſs of the Enemy in that Quarter, the want of which enables them to make advances that I fear will tend greatly to the prejudice of his Majesties Service, and the Interest of these Provinces; Under these Circumstances I have by the return of the Expreſs, offered my thoughts to the Commanding Officers at the Head Quarters, and recommende them to pursue such measures as to me appears most proper on th present Emergency. Colonel Broadstreet is sett off with a very considerable Number of Whale Boats & Battoes with Provisions fo Oswego, which they have much wanted, I wish he may Arrive saf with the Convoy, I think his Voyage will be hazardous if the Enem get footing on the Waters leading to that Fort. In short Sir from th Accounts I have received, things do not appear to be so well regular as they neceſsarily should for promoting the Publick Service, an if the French once Post it will cost us much more to remove them than it would to have prevented their gaining any such Advantage.

By my Letters from Sir William Johnson, the last of the 12 Instant, which I received yesterday, I think we have at last brought about an Accomodation with the Delawares, his Accounts are as follows in his first Letter (viz.) "As I finished my Letter two Oneida

Indians

April 16: 1756

" Indians on whom I can depend, brought me an Account that the
"Delegates were returned, and say, that they have settled that unhappy
"Breach between them and us, they are to be here in two or three Days
"(meaning Fort Johnson) when I shall be able to give your Excellency
"a true State of their proceedings at that meeting. They further add
"that the Delawares have engaged to join us, with the five Nations,
"against the French". — In his last Letter he says "This Evening some
"of the Delegates sent to treat with the Delawares Arrived here, (meaning
"Mount Johnson) with several of the Oniedas, Tuscororas, Onondagos
"and Mohocks. I have only time to tell your Excellency that they
"aſsure me they have made up that unhappy Affair, and that the
"Delawares, Except those of their People who may be Prisoners, be delivered
"up as soon as poſsible, and then they promised to deliver up those
"they have of ours. they say they will join the Six Nations against the
"French if they desire it; I shall write your Excellency more about it
"as soon as I hear all they have to say."

Thus far I hope through the Interposition of the Six Nations this Affair is in a fair way of being brought to a happy iſsue, and I hope will encourage you not to declare War against those People. though I observe your Papers makes mention of their being declared Enemies, and rewards offered for Scalps. The Mowhocks have sent Four of their Sachems to invite our River Indians to remove to

their

Copy
Sr Charles Hardy Esq [illegible]
[illegible] 16 Apr 1756

their Castles, and I hear propose giving them a Portion of their Lands to settle upon.

Upon a Review of my proposal for a Prohibition of the Exportation of Provisions, I must beg leave to make this Addition to it that if the Aſsemblys should decline paſsing the neceſsary Laws for the purpose, that the Governments should agree to lay an Embargo, which will most effectually Answer the end desired. I shall have no difficulty in this measure, with the Concurrence of the Neighbouring Governments, and think I can anſwer for that of his Majesties Council of this Province.

I am with great Regard
Your most Obedient
& Humble Servant
Charles Hardy.

P.S. The Packet is just
Arrived her Mail not come up
said to be Nine Weeks out.

At a Council held at Fo
New York on Sunday the 18th day o

Present/

His Excellency Sir Charles Hardy Knt. Cap

Mr. Colden
Mr. Kennedy
Lt. Govr. De Lancey
Mr. Horsmanden
} Mr. Murray
Mr. Holland
Mr. Chambers
Mr. Smith

Designs of the [illegible]

His Excellency communicated several Letters and Pap received from Albany, containing sundry Articles of Intelligen the proceedings of the French, from whence it may be conjectured intend to make an attack on Oswego.

[illegible] 13th [illegible]

Also a Letter from Sir William Johnson of the 13th Instant, acquainting his Excellency that the Six Nations propose soon to ha grand Meeting at Onondaga, and have desired him to be present a meeting, and to bring with him all the Arms and Ammunition he c as they are much in want of both. That he has no proper Arms to give them, nor knows how to get them, and therefore hopes his Excellency will supply whatever he may not be able to procure othe out of the present his Excellency has from his Majesty for the S Nations.

[illegible]

The Council advised his Excellency to send to Sir William Johnson, the Arms and Ammunition sent hither by his Majesty a a Present for the Six Nations; with directions to Sir William to use his Discretion in the distribution of them among the Indians.

His Excellency acquainted the Council he had wrote to Lieut Co Gage, Commanding Officer of the Kings Troops at Schenectady, recommending that he would reinforce such Posts as might want it in the present Situation of Affairs.

Substance of an Occasional Conversation with Severall Indians after dinner at Isr. Pemberton's Philad.a 9th mo. 1756

Present
Teanoyada
Old [illegible]
Jona[illegible]

Jonathan's Son
Conrad Weiser
Andrew Montour
Daniel Claus
} Interpreters

Abra. Farrington
Joshua Dixon
Isr. Pemberton
Mary Pemberton
Owen Jones
Anthony Benezett
James Pemberton

The Indians were informed, that notwithstanding the Chain of Friendship wch had mutually Subsisted between us & them, had been lately broke by ~~[illegible]~~ some of their Brethren, we yet entertain'd a great regard & love for the Indians, and we did not doubt but that there were many yet remaining amongst them, who were desirous of living in the [illegible] Love & peace with us; that we present & many others of our Friends made profession of a Principle of Peace & could not on any account join in Warr.

To which Teanoyada Replyd

# That he was very glad to hear this and that they held that Peaceable Principle & could wish all Mankind to be of the same mind. knowing it would prevent any cause of difference or Contention between them [illegible] the English & [illegible] any occasion of Warr.

They were further told,

That Wm. Penn in ye first settlemt of this Prov: took particular care to establish love & peace amongst the [illegible]. Some of our forefathers were of his Councill & assisted [illegible] and tho' [illegible] not concernd in ye management of Affairs of Governmt. yet we observ'd with great with great concern the present uneasiness between the People of this Province & the Indians, & were very desirous to know what could be the occasion thereof, there have been a great number of White People for some years past settled in this Province [illegible] of different Principles from the first Settlers & perhaps thro' the misconduct of some Imprudent persons amongst them & the rashness of some their own Young Men there may have been occasion given on Each side wch hath brought on so great a disturbance that their Cousins ye Dellawares have been very cruell in murdering the Inhabitants & Laying waste the Country. wch has greatly exasperated the Governour that a Warr against them was declared & the people were determined to revenge themselves upon them and yet there were a great Number of people who were of the same faith & principles with their Brother Onas who had been dead some years, [illegible] & Could not go to Warr, who were nearly affected to observe such a breach of Friendship with the Indians & were very desirous of demonstrating the sincerity of our Love towards them, by using our utmost endeavours to restore that Peace & Harmony wch formerly subsisted between us to effect wch we were not unwilling (as Onas was absent & we had not the Command of his money) at our own expence & in our own persons. thro' the assistance of the Governor, who had been consulted on ye occasion to go into their Country, or by any other method they should on consideration advise to –

Teedyuscung – says – What [illegible] said to [illegible] present I suppose may be also intended for our Brethren of the Six nations & in their name I shall answer —

We have always [illegible] a great esteem for the memory of Onas who is dead. & for the people of this Province. we have formerly been told [illegible] such who were of the same [illegible] with him. & [illegible] not join in Warr but it was now so long since We have heard anything about them We had Concluded. that When Brother Onas dyed that Spirit dyed with him. We Rejoyce now to hear it is not so. if our Brethren knew this they would never hurt their People, this will be news very acceptable to y^e Six nations we are now going there, and I shall hold fast the Conversation w^{ch}: hath now past between us & shall carry it Streight to them, & when I come [illegible] there I shall open the whole to them. & when I Relate it. it will make their Hearts melt. — This Principle of Peace is Noble & what we greatly approve. Do You Steadily persue it. & Such measures as will promote Love between us and there is a Great Spirit Above w^{ch}: will protect you —

The Seneca Indians by their open candid behaviour shew they were much pleas'd with the Oppty of ~~this~~ Conversat^n & there appearg to us an Evidence of Sincerity accompanyg it, gave us much Satisfaction & it being y^e Custom not to Enter [illegible] too largely on any Subject at y^e first Conference. Conrad Weiser withdrew. & it was Concluded to take a further Oppo: before they left y^e Town.

esent Scarroyada an Indian Chief
Kaghswoughtaniyonde .. or the old Belt
Kayenguiregoa - - - - - - or Jonathan
Conachtogo - - - - - - a Cayuga
Jonathan's Wife and Son
Conrad Weiser
Andrew Montour } Interpreters
Daniel Clauss

Abraham Farrington
Joshua Dixon
Israel Pemberton
Owen Jones
Anthony Benezet
James Pemberton
Mary Pemberton

I. P. Addressing himself to the Indians said

Brethren I am glad to see you here, and to have an Opportunity of informing you, that as Willm Penn and our Fathers who first settled this Province were Men of Peace and against all Warrs, so there are still many of us their Children, who hold the same Principles, and we hope there are many of your people, who still have a Love and regard for their old Friends.

which Scarroyada reply'd, I am very glad to hear this Word; we love that Principle of Peace, & wish all mankind were of the same mind knowing it would prevent any Cause of Difference or Contention between us and the English and take away the Occasion of Warr.

P. It gives me great pleasure to hear what you say and that the remembrance of Wm Penn is so dear to you. my Grandfather and Great Grandfather were his particular Friends & his Councellors & Men of the same Principles, & there are many of my Friends who really Love and respect you, and tho' we are not concerned in the Government have good Estates in it, & wish it's Welfare and prosperity, but we are made very sorrowful by the bad Conduct of your Cousins the Delawares who contrary to the Friendship they formerly had for us have done very wickedly, and shed the Blood of many of our Brethren without any Cause given them that we know of.

rroyada Answers, What you now say to us I take to be said to all our Brethren of the six Nations and shall Answer you in their Name — We are glad to hear there are some People of so fine Peaceable ples we wish it had been told us sooner & that you had always spoke and acted agreeable to this Principle for we are sure that tho' our Cousins (the Delawares) have struck the Blow, they would not hurt any of you, if they knew you as such, and if you had taken sufficient Care in time you might have kept them under your Eye as Children. #

P. We wish the Delawares could be restrained from doing any more Mischief, & the greatest proof we can give of our Love and regard for one another is by convincing them of their bad Conduct, to engage them to return to their Allegiance, for as this Government cannot but be highly displeased and is determined to punish them, & has therefore declar'd Warr against them, No doubt but many of them will suffer for their folly and Wickedness, now if you will use your hearty Endeavours with them we will likewise stand between them & our Government, for as we consider they have no King and their Wise Old men are gone, we look upon them as Children who do not know what they are doing, therefore if they will forbear any further Mischief & repent we will do all we can to have them forgiven.

carroyada; We attend to what you have said and will hold it fast. (clasping his hand and keepin it Close) till we come to the Six Nations, where we are now going, & then we will lay it open to them in a strait Line (opening his hand with the Back of it on the Table & setting his Fingers and a pipe strait before him) and it will be joyful News to them and when I relate it to them it will make their Hearts Melt.

Your Peaceable principle is noble and the Great Spirit above, that is over all will protect you -- -- -- -- if you steadily keep to it.

They were then told that some more of our Brethren in Town who professed the same principle of Peace would be pleased with an Opportunity of seeing them & of making our selves more known to them.

The Interpreter explained this that the Expressions imply'd that we had been too negligent of cultivating our Friendship with the Indians & that if we had been more conversant with each other, The Delawares would have remained Subject both to the Six Nations & to us, that they were now grown stiff, like a strong Tree not easily bow'd, but if we had conversed with each other with the same Freedom our Forefathers did & thereby Manifested that we had nothing but Love and good will in our Hearts to them they might have been kept under our Notice and direction as Children under a Father, & as the Six Nations had been negligent as well as we, he would have us consider it and alter our measures—

At a Conference on the 21st 4mo: 1756 in the Morning

resent

The same Indians as before
with several others

Joshua Dixon
Abm Farrington
Anthony Morris
Mordecai Yarnell
Saml Powell
Isaac Zane
James Lownes
Anthony Benezet
Danl Stanton
John Pemberton

Israel Pemberton
Wm Logan
John Smith
James Pemberton
Saml Abbot
John Armitt
Owen Jones
Thomas Brown
John Reynell
Thomas Say.

irst gave a String of Wampum requesting their Attention to what was about to be said to them
ring a matter of great Importance.

rethren, The Opportunity some of us had of your Company the other Day has given us great Satisfa
nd finding you retain so lively and Affectionate Remembrance of Wm Penn and our Forefath
nd the Friendship which subsisted between them and your Fathers, it hath rejoyced our Brethre
ho have heard of it, and some more of them are now come to see you, for tho' we have long lain hid
almost buryed by the Great Numbers of other People who are come into this Province, many of
hom are men of different principles from us, yet we can inform you there is a great Number in
his City and other parts of the province, and even on the Frontiers where a great deal of Bloo
ave been shed who are the Children of Wm Penn and the first Settlers that are Men of the same
eaceable principles and who love you as our Brethren. We shall now arise and show our selv
o you, for as we are sorrowful that Differences have arisen between your Cousins the Delawar
nd our people. We are desirous of using our Endeavours to restore Peace, & if they will stop fro
oing further mischief we shall be ready to stand between them and the Government, that they ma
e forgiven, & as a proof of our Sincerity we give you this Belt, (a Large White Belt,) which yo
ee is White without any mixture as our Love and Friendship to you is, and as it is ma
many pieces which were small & of little weight or strength before they were knit together, but
now strong and firm, so we when collected and United together, shall appear to our Brethren
nd we desire you by this Belt, to let both the Six Nations and Delawares know, that we hav
not forgot the Love and Kindness of their Fathers to ours, and as we are Men of the same
peaceable principles we are ready to give our Assistance in any manner we can to put a
stop to the present Bloodshed and to open the way for a Treaty, in which all uneasinesses m
be freely opened, and when the Grounds thereof are known we will endeavour to get them rem
in every respect.

Gave a large Belt of White Wampum

rethren,

As you are wise Men we desire you to consider in what manner we may be soonest able
to put a Stop to the shedding of Blood for as many of our Friends of the same peaceable princi
with us for whom you express so much regard live in different parts of the Province and so
on the very Frontiers without something be done soon they may be destroyed among others,
therefore for their Sakes in particular as well as of our Countrymen in general we are conc
to have some speedy Stop put to the shedding Blood. Gave a string & some Medals with ye King

arroyada Answered,

Brethren, We are glad to hear what you have said to us, & to Understand by the Belt yo "peace and Love are yet in being, Your Fathers declared that they had nothing but Love & good will in their Hearts to all men. We thought that the people of that Profeſſion had been all Dead or bury'd in the Bushes or in the Aſhes, but we are very glad there are some of the same Men living, and that you offer to stand as mediators between our Cousins the Delawares & this Government now at Variance, we will heartily join you herein. It is not only us few that hear you but all the six Nations. As to this misfortune, it came upon us as if an Evil Spirit had arisen from under the Ground, & spread all over the Country, & the Blood was begun to be spilt before we had time to think, but we must now all apply to the good Spirit to aſsist both you and us to Subdue this Evil Spirit.

Brethren, We will think of the best way to advise you and Communicate our Sentiments before we leave Town, We will fix the Medals you gave us on our Breasts, and when ever we look on them we shall remember & let others know that some of Wm Penn's deſcendants of the same principles he was, are living.

The foregoing is the Substance of the Conversation between Israel Pemberton on behalf of the Quakers & Scarroyady an Indian Chief at Philadelphia the 19th & 21st 4mo: 1756.

Conrad Weisor
Danl. Claus
Hendrick HM Montour
vulgo Andrew

On the 19th 4mo. 1756 Subſtance of an occaſional Converſation with ſeveral Indians after Dinner at Iſrael Pemberton's

Present

Scarroyada an Indian Chief
Kaghswoogtanoyonde or the Belt
Kayenquiregoa or Jonathan
Conachtogo, a Cayuga
Jonathan's Wife & Son
Conrad Weiser
Andrew Montour } Interpreters
Daniel Claus

Abra^{m} Farrington
Joshua Dixon
Iſrael Pemberton
Mary Pemberton
Owen Jones
Anthony Benezett
James Pemberton

I. P. addreſsing himſelf to the Indians ſaid

Brethren

I am glad to ſee you here & to have an Opportunity of informing you that as William Penn & our Fathers who firſt ſettled this Province were Men of Peace & againſt all Wars ſo there are ſtill many of us their Children who hold the ſame Principle and We hope there are many of your People who ſtill have a Love & Regard for their old Friends.

To which Scarroyada reply'd

I am very glad to hear this Accoun We love that Principle of Peace & wiſh all Mankind were of the ſame Opinion knowing it would prevent any Cauſe of Difference or Contention between us & the Engliſh & take away the Occaſion of War.

I.P. It gives me great Pleasure to hear what you ſay & that the Remembrance of William Penn is ſo dear to you, my Grand-father & Greatgrandfather were his particular Friends and his Counsellors & Men of the ſame Principles & there are many o my Friends who really love & respect you & tho: We are not concern'd in the Government have good Estates in it & wish t Welfare & Prosperity but We are made very ſorrowful by the bad Conduct of your Cousins the Delawares who contrary t the Friendship they formerly had for us have done very wickedly & ſhed the Blood of many of our Brethren with-out any Cause given them that We know of.

Scarroyadd answers

What you now ſay to us I take to be ſaid to all our Brethren of the Six Nations & ſhall answer you in their Name. We are glad to hear there are ſome People left of the peaceable Principle We wish it had been told us ſooner & that you had always ſpoke & acted agreable to this Principle for We are ſure that tho' our Cousins the Delawares have ſtruck th Blow they would hurt none of you if they knew you as ſuch & if you had taken ſufficient Care in Time you might have kept them under your Eye as Children. #

The Interpreters explain'd this —— That the Expreſsions imply'd that We had been too negligent of cultivating our Friend with the Indians & that if we had been more conversant with ea other the Delawares would have remain'd ſubject to the Six Nati & to us, that they were now grown ſtiff like a ſtrong Tree not eas

bold

low'd but if we had convers'd with each other with the ſame Freedom our Forefathers did & thereby manifeſted that We had nothing but Love & Goodwill in our Hearts to them they might have been kept under our Notice & Direction as Children under a Father, and the Six Nations had been negligent as well as we, he would have us consider it, & alter our Measures.

S.P. We wish the Delawares could be restrain'd from doing any more Mischief and the greatest Proof we can give our Love & Regard for one another is by convincing them of their bad Conduct to engage them to return to their Allegiance; for as this Government cannot but be highly displeas'd and is determin'd to punish them & has therefore declar'd War against them no Doubt but many of them will ſuffer for their Folly & Wickedneſs now if you will use your hearty Endeavours We will likewise ſtand between them & our Government for as We consider they have no King & their wise old Men are gone we look upon them as Children who do not know what they are doing therefore if they will forbear any further Mischief & repent will do all we can to have them forgiven.

Scarroyada

We attend to what you have ſaid & will hold it faſt (claſping his Hand & keeping it close) till we come to the Six Nations where we are now going & then we will lay it open to them in a ſtraight Line (opening his Hand wide with the Back of it on the Table & ſetting his Fingers & a Pipe ſtraight before him) & it will be joyful News to them & when I relate it to them it will make their Hearts melt. —

Your peaceable Principle is noble & the great Spirit above that is over all will protect you if you ſteadily keep to it

They were then told that ſome more of our Brethren in Tow
who profeſs'd the ſame Principles would be pleas'd with an Opp
of ſeeing them & making ourſelves more known to them.

On the 21st 4mo 1756 in the Morning
At a Conference ... Present

The ſame Indians as before with ſevl others

Joshua Dixon
Abm Farrington
Anthy Morris
Mordc Yarnall
Saml Powell
Isaac Lane
James Lownes
Anthy Benezet
Daniel Stanton
John Pemberton

Israel Pemberton
William Logan
John Smith
James Pemberton
Samuel Abbott
John Armitt
Owen Jones
Thomas Browne
John Reynell
Thomas Say

First. Gave a ſtring of Wampum requeſting their Attention to what was about to be ſaid to them being a Matter of great Importance.

Brethren

The Opportunity ſome of us had of your Company the other Day has given us great Satiſfaction & finding you retain ſo lively & affectionate Remembrance of William Penn & your Forefathers & the Friendſhips which ſubſiſted between them & your Fathers it hath rejoyc'd our Brethren who have heard of it & ſome more of them are now come here to ſee you for tho' we have long lain hid & almost bury'd by the great Numbers of other People who are come into this Province many of whom are Men of different Principles from us yet We can inform you there is a great Number in this City & other Parts of this Province & ſome even on the very Frontiers where a great Deal of Blood has been ſhed who are the Children of William Penn and the Firſtsettlers that are Men of the ſame peaceable Principles & who love you as our Brethren; We ſhall now ariſe & ſhow ourſelves to you for as we are ſorrowful that Differences have ariſen between your Couſins the Delawares, & our People We are deſirous of uſing our Endeavours to reſtore Peace & if they will ſtop from doing further Miſchief We ſhall be ready to ſtand between them & the Government that they may be forgiven, and as a Proof of our Sincerity we give you this Belt (a large white Belt) which you ſee is without any Mixture as our Love & Friendſhip to you is & as it is made of many Pieces which were ſmall & of little Weight or Strength before they were knitt together but is now ſtrong & firm ſo we when collected & united together ſhall appear to our Brethren & we deſire you by this Belt to let both the Six Nations & Delawares know that we have not forgot the Love & Kindneſs of their Fathers to ours & as we are Men of the ſame peaceable Principles We are ready to give our Aſſiſtance in any Manner we can to put a Stop to the preſent Bloodſhed & to open the Way for a Treaty in which all Uneaſineſſes may be freely opened and when the Grounds thereof are known we will endeavour to get them remov'd in every Reſpect. Gave a large Belt white Wampum.

Brethren

As you are wise Men we desire you to consider in what Manner we may be ſoonest able to put a Stop to the Shedding of Blood for as man of our Friends of the ſame peaceable Principle with us for whom you expreſs ſo much Regard live in different Parts of the Province & ſome on the very Frontiers without ſomething be done ſoon they may be destroy'd among others therefore for their Sakes in particula as well as of our Countrymen in general we are concern'd to have ſom ſpeedy Stop put to the Shedd of Blood. Gave a String & ſome Medals wth ye King's Ha

Scarroyada's Answer Brethren We are glad to hear what you have ſaid to u & to understand by the Belt you gave us that you offer to ſtand u as William Penn's Children & that the old Principles of Peace & Lo are yet in being. Your Fathers declar'd that they had nothing bu Love & Goodwill in their Hearts to all Men we thought that the of that Profeſsion had been all dead or bury'd in the Bushes or in Ashes but We are very glad there are ſome of the ſame Men living that you offer to ſtand as Mediators between our Cousins the De & this Government now at Variance. We will heartily join you herein. It's not only us few who hear you but all the Six Natio As to this Misfortune it came upon us as if an evil Spirit ha ariſen from under the Ground & ſpread all over the Countr the Blood was begun to be ſpilt before we had Time to think bu must now all apply to the Good Spirit to aſsist both you & us ſubdue the evil Spirit.

Brethren We will think of the best Way to advise you & communic our Sentiments before we leave Town we will fix the Medals gave us on our Breasts & whenever we look on them We ſhall remember & let others know that ſome of William Penns Deſcendants of the ſame Principles he was are living.

The foregoing is the Subſtance of the Converſation between Israel Pemberton on behalf of the Quakers & Scarroyada an Indian Chief at Philadelphia the 19th & 21st 4mo 1756.

Conrad Weiser
Danl Claus
Hendrick vulgo Andrew HM Montour

At a Conference 23d 4mo 1756 in the House of Israel Pemberton

Indians present

Scaroyada or Monakatectha
Kaghswoghtaniyonde or ye Belt
Kayenquerigoa or Jonathan
Taddekaronyes or Tiggarea
Karondoio . . . . Newcaſtle
Ostinados . . . . Sinicha George
Oghsaghrahhe . . Thickleg
Oghwistoony ye Smith or Lanca Indian
Tyohoyata . . . . Green Jacket
Tyadaroonie . . . . David
Thonaghtogo . . . . the Cayuga
Woatsadacke . . . . Scarroyada's Boy
Aroas . . . . . Silver Heels
and ſeveral Indian Women
William Locquies, a Delaware

Interpreters viz—
Conrad Weiser
Andrew Montour
Daniel Claus

Samuel Powell
Anthony Morris
James Lownes
Abrm Farrington
Joshua Dixon
William Logan
John Smith
Anthony Benezett
Israel Pemberton
James Pemberton
John Pemberton
Owen Jones Jno. Reynell
Jno. Armitt Mord. Yarnall
Thomas Browne
Thos. Say. Isaac Lane
Thomas Lightfoot

Scarroyada ſtanding up ſaid

Brethren directing his Discourſe to Onas (by which they mean People likeminded with the first Settlers) We are glad to hear ſo many of your Sort of People are now alive, that you riſe again from the dead & tho' we have been lost to one another a great while, We are ver glad to hear you are of the ſame Sentiments with Onas. Since he wa dead there have come from Time to Time new Governors one after another & another Sort of People different from the first Settlers an we lost him (meaning Onas) We are very glad at your riſing up an holding the white Belt in your Hands as an Emblem of Peace to endeavour to reconcile the People that are at Warr. We will hold fast what you ſay & carry it to the Six Nations & add Strength to it who will be very glad to hear there are ſome People of the ſame Principles of the first Settlers for We have not heard of you for many Years. —— A String

Brethren

We are glad to hear you ſpeak after the Language of Onas and of th Principles of Peace he preached or recommended. We thought there wer no more of the People of that Principle left in this Country We ar glad to ſee you now & hear you ſpeak. We will aſsist you & lay your Belt of Peace before the Six Nations who will be glad to hear of you and tho' this may ſeem to contradict what the Govern.r has ſaid to u We dont mean ſo but let that be as it is. We aſsure you what you propoſe to us is what We like best & We will aſsist you in it & ſhall ſend these three Indians (pointing to Newcastle Jiggarea & Wm. Locqu to Wyoming with a Meſsage to let our Cousins know there are a

People risen in Philadelphia who desire to have Peace restor'd & that they must cease from doing any further Mischief & not be afraid to be willing to treat with you and we are ſure they will mind our Meſsage and what we desire will be granted. Second String

rethren

As Things are now circumstanc'd we would not have you venture your Lives to go or ſend any Meſsage over the Mountain to the Delawares or Shawnese, they are now your & our Enemies, We will venture our Lives to make the Road clear but do you ſtay where you are if they have their Throats cut you cannot then hear from them but it may please the most High they may return Meſsengers of Peace & if they ſhould bring you an agreeable Answer We then desire you may act the Part of wise Men & be careful in ſettling a Treaty & then you may go to meet them but do not ſtir till you hear from us. Third String

Brethren

As We told you before these three Men two of whom are of the Council of the Six Nations & Warriours & the other one of our Cousins have undertaken to go wherever we ſhall ſend them & perhaps it may pleaſe the Most High to bring them Back in Safety & with an agreeable Answer, if they come back take Notice of them as your ſirm Friends & as you are Children of Onas & ſome of us are of the Council & ſome Warriours of the Six Nations We are very desirous that by your Means the Treaties of Friendship which have formerly ſubsisted between us may now be renew'd & remain from Generation to Generation that the Chain may be kept bright & never contract any Rust again. Gave a String Wampum

Brethren

We hope you will not take amiſs our answering you with ſo little Wampum & not making a Return of a Belt; the Times are very difficult with us & We have little Wampum here & look upon the white Belt you gave us as belonging to you & us & as an Emblem of Peace & ſhall preserve it as ſuch & carry it to the Six Nations.

We have examin'd the foregoing & certify that it contains
ſubstance of the Conference held between the Indians
Wm Logan & others the 23d April 1756

Conrad Weiser
Danl. Claus
Hendrick vulgo Andw. Montour

The preceeding Minutes being call'd for to lay before the Governor ſooner than expected there was not Time to review & add the follow-g concluding Minutes which ought to have been done — Viz.

T. P. We are glad to hear what you have ſaid to us as We believe it to be ſpoken in Sincerity & what you really think & tho' we judge it neceſsary on Matters of Importance to observe the good Method practi by you to take Time to deliberate yet as we now believe you have opened the real Sentiments of your Hearts to us. ſo we being all of one Heart & Mind & knowing that many more of our Brethren, th is, all true Quakers will join us herein can without any Hesitation readily answer & aſsure you that We receive all you have ſaid with great Pleasure & whatsoever may be the Event of our Endeavours We hope on all future Occasions to demonstrate our real Love & Regard to you

To which they gave the usual Expreſsion of Approbation.

Then Scarroyada addreſs'd himself to the Interpreter & ſaid.

As We are oblig'd to make Use of your Ears & Tongues We deſi you may be hearty & ſincere in attending to the Buſsineſs now undertaken & to join with our Brethren & us in carrying the ſa into Execution. (And he intimated that if they did ſo they woul merit our Mutual Regard.)

To which T. P. answer'd — We approve of the prudent Advice you gi them & We hope they will remember it & approve themselves worth of our Regard which We ſhall not be wanting to manifeſt to th in a grateful Manner. & added..

As you are now going on your Journey & the Weather grows warm We give you ſome Handkerchiefs to wipe the Sweat from your Faces & ſome ſmall Matters for your Wives with ſome more Medals (which they thankfully receiv'd & distributed to each present reserving a few for ſome of their Brethren &ca in Town ſick — And then T. P. added —

I: P. adds

As you mention'd to us you thought We ought to apply to the good Spirit that is over all to ſubdue the evil Spirit which had influenc'd those who had done ſo much Mischief. We ſincerely & heartily agree with you & ſhall fervently desire & pray to God to change their Hearts & that if it be his Will he would protect the Meſsengers now going & grant that they may return ſafely & with the Meſsage of Peace. (which they attend. to & receiv'd with a becoming Solidity & Satisfaction.)

Then Scarroyada answer'd.

Brother Onas — We that are here both Councillors & Warriours of the Six Nations & Women — We return you many Thanks for what you have ſaid to us & what you have given us & ſhould be glad We had Words ſufficiently expreſsive of our Love & Regard to you

Then with mutual friendly Salutations (by the good old Custom of ſhaking Hands) the Conferences ended & Scarroyada & most of the Indians ſet out on 25th 4mo for New York & thence to Onondago & the three Embaſsadors under the Conduct of A. I. Spangenberg & others by Way of Bethlehem to Wyoming.

Finis

Conferences
with the Indians

4 mo. 1756.

"Although this is not an official treaty it deserves mention as an attempt to mediate between the Delawares who were on the war-path and the Province of Pennsylvania which had just declared war on them. The conference took place at the house of Israel Pemberton on the 19th,21st and 23rd, Fourth Month. There were present on the 21st, twenty Quakers, seven Indians and some Indian women and Conrad Weiser, Daniel Claus and Andrew Montour as Interpreters.

The Quakers reminded the Indians of the peaceful conduct of their forefathers and assured them of their good feeling and asked the Indians to find some way to reach the Delawares and persuade them to make peace. The Indians replied that they were glad to know that there were some people left with peaceful principles. 'We thought that the people of that profession were all dead or buried in the bushes or in the ashes.' They promised to send messengers to the Delawares but advised the Quakers that it would be dangerous for any of them to attempt to go.

An account of this conference is also given in the Account of Conferences with Sir.Wm.Johnson printed in London the same year."

De Puy.

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2818

SEVERAL CONFERENCES

Between ſome of the principal PEOPLE amongſt the

QUAKERS

IN

PENNSYLVANIA,

AND THE

DEPUTIES

FROM THE

SIX INDIAN NATIONS,

In ALLIANCE with BRITAIN;

In order to reclaim their Brethren the DELAWARE INDIANS from their *Defection*, and put a Stop to their *Barbarities* and *Hoſtilities*.

To which is prefix'd

(As introductory to the ſaid CONFERENCES)

Two ADDRESSES from the ſaid QUAKERS; one to the Lieutenant-Governor, and the other to the General-Aſſembly of the Province of *Pennſylvania*; as alſo the Lieutenant-Governor's DECLARATION of WAR againſt the ſaid *Delaware Indians*, and their Adherents.

NEWCASTLE UPON TYNE:
Printed by I. THOMPSON and COMPANY.
MDCCLVI.

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ADVERTISEMENT

TO THE

READER.

THE Copy of the following CONFERENCES was brought over from *Penſilvania* into *England* by a Perſon of Veracity, who was preſent, and a Witneſs to them, and therefore its Authenticity may be depended upon. And as it is not a mere Effort of Imagination and Study, but a plain Relation of Reality and Matter of Fact, the Editors have not thought proper to deviate in any Particular from the Copy put into their Hands; but have here given it to the Reader in its genuine Dreſs, without the leaſt Alteration. To the Candid and Impartial, it will not need an Excuſe or Apology; and to ſuch as have not the Happineſs of theſe Diſpoſitions, all Apologies and Excuſes would be offered in vain.

TO

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, *Eſq;* Lieutenant-Governor and Commander in CHIEF of the PROVINCE of *Pennſylvania.*

The humble ADDRESS *of ſome of the People called* QUAKERS, *reſiding in the City of* PHILADELPHIA, *on Behalf of themſelves and many others.*

WITH Hearts ſorely diſtreſſed, and deeply affected with the Calamities of our Fellow-Subjects, and painfully apprehenſive of the impending Deſolations conſequent of an *Indian* War, we addreſs the Governor, and earneſtly intreat thy favourable Attention, on this ſolemn and important Conjuncture, in which the Lives and Liberties of the People of this Province are ſo nearly concerned.

WE have, with the moſt ſenſible Concern and Pain of Mind, obſerved the ſorrowful Alteration in the State of this late peaceful Province, now become the Theatre of Bloodſhed and Rapine, and diſtreſſed by the cruel Devaſtations of a barbarous Enemy, which juſtly excites the moſt aggravating Reflections in every conſiderate Mind; yet when we conſider that all Wars are attended with fatal Conſequences, and one with Enemies ſo ſavage as thoſe who have now become ours, with Circumſtances the moſt ſhocking and dreadful, we cannot omit beſeeching, that before the Reſolution of declaring War againſt them be carried into Execution, ſome farther Attempts may be made, by pacifick Meaſures, to reduce them to a Senſe of their Duty, and that a farther Opportunity may be offered to ſuch as may be willing to ſeparate from thoſe who have been the wicked Inſtruments of perverting them.

THE Settlement of this Province was founded on the Principles of Truth, Equity and Mercy, and the Bleſſing of Divine Providence attended the early Care of the firſt Founders to impreſs theſe Principles on the Minds of the native Inhabitants; ſo that when their Numbers were great, and their Strength vaſtly ſuperior, they received our Anceſtors with Gladneſs, relieved their Wants with open Hearts, granted them peaceable Poſſeſſion of the Land, and, for a long Courſe of Time, gave conſtant and frequent Proofs of a cordial Friendſhip; all which we humbly aſcribe to the infinite Wiſdom and Goodneſs of God, *whoſe Hand is for Good upon all them that ſeek him*; and as the angelick Acclamation of *Glory to God in the higheſt*, *Peace on Earth, and Good will to Men*, with which the Birth of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt was publiſhed, and the Example and Precepts which He, as the Prince of Peace, gave through the Courſe of his perſonal Appearance on Earth, have afforded us undoubted Aſſurance that the Day is dawn'd in which his peace-

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peaceable Reign will be exalted, and gradually become univerſal; we cannot, without the Neglect of our Duty, and ſacrificing the Peace of Conſcience, which we prefer to every temporal Bleſſing, omit reviving our Teſtimony in this Time of Probation, that all Wars appear to us contrary to the Nature and End of the Goſpel Diſpenſation, and that we, as a People, ſtill firmly believe, that on an humble and ſteady Acquieſcence with the Diſpenſations of divine Providence our real Protection and Security depends, from which no temporal Inconveniencies and Difficulties can juſtify our departing.

Yet while we earneſtly deſire all may attain this happy Experience, we do not preſume to preſcribe, but as our Minds feel more than our Words can expreſs of Pain and Anxiety for our Brethren and Fellow Chriſtians, whoſe Deſtruction, we fear will be increaſed, and perpetuated, by a haſty Declaration of War, we find ourſelves obliged to beſeech the Governor to reſume the moſt weighty, ſerious, and religious Deliberation on this melancholy Occaſion, that ſo every Meaſure which hath been purſued, and whatever remains poſſible to be done, to prevent ſo fatal and lamentable an Extremity, may be ſtrictly and impartially reviewed and conſidered; that full Enquiry may be made whether ſome Apprehenſions theſe *Indians* have conceived of a Deviation from the Integrity of Conduct towards them, ſo conſpicuous in the firſt Eſtabliſhment, may not, unhappily, have contributed, in ſome Degree, to the Alteration of their Conduct towards us; that full Time may be allowed for thoſe *Indians* who ſtill remain well affected towards us, to uſe and report the Effect of their Endeavours to reconcile our Enemies, and that proper

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Care may be taken to prevent our Allies being, through the Miſconduct or evil Diſpoſitions of any, injured in ſuch Manner as to provoke them likewiſe to turn their Arms againſt us; and that the Governor's Care to guard againſt involving the Innocent with the Guilty, may carry ſo clear Demonſtration of Chriſtian Tenderneſs, and Averſion to ſhedding Blood, that an Evidence may be given to the Minds of the other neighbouring *Indians*, which may engage them heartily and ſincerely to aſſiſt in the deſirable Work of reſtoring Peace and Tranquillity, towards which all the Meaſures hitherto taken ſeem to have contributed little good Effect.

WE therefore, with Sincerity and Ardency, pray that the Calamities may be averted, which will enſue on a continued War with theſe Savages, ſome of the melancholy Effects of which the Annals of a neighbouring Province, full of the moſt warlike People, have teſtify'd; and as the Fear of God, Honour of the King, Love of our Brethren and Fellow Chriſtians, are the Motives which have engaged us to make this Addreſs, we hope to demonſtrate by our Conduct, that every Occaſion of aſſiſting and relieving the Diſtreſſed, and contributing towards the obtaining Peace, in a Manner conſiſtent with our peaceable Profeſſion, will be chearfully improved by us, and even though a much larger Part of our Eſtates ſhould be neceſſary than the heavieſt Taxes of a War can be expected to require, we ſhall chearfully, by voluntary Grant, evidence our Sincerity herein.

MAY the Mind of the Governor be endued with that Wiſdom which the wiſeſt of Kings experienced to be *better than Weapons of War*, and may thy Councils be directed to the Honour of God, and Good of the People over whom thou preſideſt, is our ſincere Deſire and Prayer.

Philadelphia, Fourth Month 12, 1756.

To which the GOVERNOR, by one of the Members of his COUNCIL, the next Day returned the following ANSWER.

THAT agreeable to their Requeſt he had reaſſumed the Conſideration of the Declaration of War, and had, for that Purpoſe, ſummoned as full a Council as he could get together, before whom he laid the preſent State and Condition of the Province; the ſeveral Steps taken by the Government to put an End in a peaceable Manner to the cruel Ravages of the Indians, *as well as their Addreſs; when the whole Matter was fully debated and conſidered, and the Council adviſed him to proceed immediately to a Declaration of War, which being agreeable to his own Sentiments, he ſhould accordingly do, as ſoon as the Conferences with the* Indians, *in order to make proper Diſtinctions between our Friends and Enemies, were over.*

TO

TO THE

REPRESENTATIVES of the FREEMEN of the Province of PENNSYLVANIA, in GENERAL ASSEMBLY met.

The ADDRESS of ſome of the People called QUAKERS, *reſiding in the City of* PHILADELPHIA, *on Behalf of themſelves and many others.*

THE mournful and deſolate Circumſtances of our Fellow Subjects on the Frontiers of this Province, engaging the deep Concern and Sympathy of every Mind capable of conſidering the Diſtreſs and Affliction to which they are now ſubjected, and the preſent Conjuncture appearing to us the moſt critical and important the Inhabitants of this Province have ever known, we hope our Addreſs to you, at this time, will obtain your ſerious, weighty, and deliberate Conſideration.

WE have, ſome time paſt, painfully obſerved the Meaſures purſued, and how remarkably they have been diſappointed, and fail'd of the deſirable End of reſtoring Peace and Tranquillity, and as we are informed that the Governor has under Conſideration a Declaration of War againſt thoſe *Indians*, who, contrary to the Faith of their Treaties, and the Friendſhip they have heretofore manifeſted to us, have become our open and cruel Enemies; from the ſtrong Motives of the Fear of God, and Love of Mankind, and *eſpecially of our ſuffering Brethren and Fellow Chriſtians*, we have been conſtrained to make our Addreſs to the Governor (a Duplicate of which we herewith deliver you) beſeeching him to ſuſpend a full Determination of carrying ſuch Meaſures into Execution, as may render all pacifick Propoſals much more difficult; and as the Station in which you are placed, the Truſt committed to you, and the Profeſſion you make of being the Diſciples and Followers of our Lord Jeſus Chriſt, the Prince of Peace, unite in demanding of your utmoſt and unwearied Endeavours to be exerted for the Safety, Peace and Proſperity of the People of this Province, we intreat and beſeech you, as you tender the Honour of God, the Reputation and Promotion of the Doctrines and fundamental Principles of Chriſtianity, and the Welfare of yourſelves, and the People whom you repreſent, to exert yourſelves on this moſt ſolemn and important Occaſion.

THE Records of the ſeveral Treaties with thoſe *Indians*, and our Anceſtors, our own, and our Neighbours Experience, have fully proved, that though they are ſavage, and inexpreſſibly cruel to their Enemies, they are not void of a large Share of natural Underſtanding; have, in many Caſes, clear Sentiments of Juſtice and Equity, and have, from the firſt Settlement of this Province, till a few Months paſt, manifeſted their Friendſhip to us; we therefore deſire it may be the Care of all concerned (tho' not convinced as we are, that War is repugnant to the Doctrine and Principles of the Goſpel) firſt to be aſſured that our Affairs with theſe People have been tranſacted, in every Reſpect, in

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in the moſt honeſt, upright, and equitable Manner: The Reflections which the Want of this neceſſary Care muſt ſuggeſt to every Mind, if a Time of general Deſolation ſhould enſue, are too obvious and dreadful to be mentioned, and we are certain that the Conſideration thereof hath made a deep Impreſſion on many, who cannot but frequently, in this melancholy Time, remember the emphatick and prophetick Expreſſions of the wiſe, worthy, firſt Proprietor of this Province: *If Friends here keep to God, and in the Juſtice, Mercy, Equity, and Fear of the Lord, their Enemies will be their Footſtool; if not, their Heirs, and my Heirs too, will loſe all, and Deſolation will follow.* [WILLIAM PENN's *Life, Folio* 124.]

THAT the Motives of Self-intereſted Views have not determined us to theſe urgent Addreſſes, we are ready and willing chearfully to manifeſt, as there are ſome among us who will freely aſſiſt with their Eſtates and Perſons, to endeavour the regaining the Friendſhip of our Enemies, and promoting pacifick Meaſures in the ſame Manner as the unhappy Experience of ſeveral of the moſt martial neighbouring Colonies hath, after long and bloody Wars, teſtify'd it muſt at laſt, if ever, be obtain'd; but as any Propoſals, or Requeſts, made by us in our private Capacities, cannot have ſo much Weight with the Governor, as an Application and Requeſt from you, who repreſent the Freemen of the Province, and who, tho' not veſted with the executive Powers of Government, are, both by ſacred and civil Obligations, bound to conſult and promote its Welfare, we intreat you to add your Endeavours to ours to effect theſe neceſſary and ſalutary Meaſures.

Philadelphia, Fourth Month 12, 1756.

By the HONOURABLE

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, *Eſq;*
Lieutenant-Governor and Commander in Chief of the Province of *Pennſylvania*, and Counties of *Newcaſtle*, *Kent* and *Suſſex*, upon *Delaware*,

A PROCLAMATION.

WHEREAS the *Delaware* Tribe of *Indians*, and others, in Confederacy with them, have, for ſome Time paſt, without the leaſt Provocation, and contrary to their moſt ſolemn Treaties, fallen upon this Province, and in a moſt cruel, ſavage and perfidious Manner, killed and butchered great Numbers of the Inhabitants, and carried others into barbarous Captivity, burning and deſtroying their Habitations, and laying waſte the Country: AND WHEREAS, notwithſtanding the friendly Remonſtrances made to them by this Government, and the Interpoſition and poſitive Orders of our faithful Friends and Allies the *Six Nations*, to whom they owe Obedience and Subjection, requiring and commanding them to deſiſt from any further Acts of Hoſtility againſt us, and to return to their Allegiance, the ſaid *Indians* do ſtill continue their cruel Murders, and Ravages, ſparing neither Age nor Sex: I HAVE THEREFORE, by and with the Advice and Conſent of the Council, thought fit to iſſue this Proclamation; and do hereby declare the ſaid *Delaware Indians*, and all others, who, in Conjunction with them, have committed Hoſtilities againſt his Majeſty's Subjects within this Province, to be Enemies, Rebels and Traitors to His moſt Sacred Majeſty. AND I do hereby require all His Majeſty's Subjects of this Province, and earneſtly invite thoſe of the neighbouring Provinces to embrace all Opportunities of purſuing, taking, killing and deſtroying the ſaid *Delaware Indians*, and all others confederated with them in committing Hoſtilities, Incurſions, Murders and Ravages upon this Province. AND WHEREAS ſundry of our good Friends and Allies, the *Six Nations*, and other friendly *Indians*, are ſeated upon, and do inhabit, the Country to the Northward of the Mouth of a River falling into the *Saſquehannah*, called *Cayuga Branch*; and thoſe of the *Six Nations*, now in Town, have deſired that our Hoſtilities againſt the ſaid Enemy *Indians* might not therefore be carried on more northerly than a Line extending from the Mouth of the ſaid *Cayuga Branch*, at an *Indian* Town, called *Diahoga* or *Tohiccon*, to the *Station Point* between the Provinces of *New-York* and *Jerſey*, at the *Indian* Town called *Caſhetunk*, upon *Delaware*, the ſaid *Indians* promiſing us their hearty and beſt Aſſiſtance: I DO THEREFORE hereby declare, that the *Indians* living and being to the Northward of a Line from the Mouth of the ſaid *Cayuga Branch* to the ſaid *Station Point*, are not included in this Declaration of War. AND WHEREAS many *Delaware* and other *Indians*, abhorring the ungrateful, cruel and perfidious Behaviour of that Part of the *Delaware* Tribe, and others that have been concerned in the late inhuman Ravages, have removed into the ſettled and inhabited Parts of the Country, put themſelves under the Protection of this and the neighbouring Governments, and live in a peaceable Manner with the King's Subjects: I DO THEREFORE declare, that the ſaid friendly *Indians* that have ſo ſeparated themſelves from our ſaid Enemies, and all others, who ſhall join or act with us in the Proſecution of this juſt and neceſſary War, are expreſly excepted out of this Declaration; and it is recommended to all Officers and others to afford them Protection and Aſſiſtance. AND WHEREAS the Commiſſioners appointed with me to diſpoſe of the *Sixty Thouſand* Pounds lately granted by Act of General Aſſembly for his Majeſty's Uſe, have, by their Letter to me, of the Tenth Inſtant, agreed to pay out of the ſame the ſeveral Rewards for Priſoners and Scalps herein after ſpecified: And therefore, as a further Inducement and Encouragement to all His Majeſty's Liege People, and to all the ſeveral Tribes of *Indians*, who continue in Friendſhip and Alliance with us, to exert and uſe their utmoſt Endeavours to purſue, attack, take and deſtroy our ſaid Enemy *Indians*; and to releaſe, redeem and recover ſuch of his Majeſty's Subjects as have been taken and made Priſoners by the ſame Enemies; I DO hereby declare and promiſe, that there ſhall be paid, out of the ſaid *Sixty Thouſand Pounds*, to all and every Perſon and Perſons, as well *Indians* as *Chriſtians*, not in the Pay of the Province, the ſeveral and reſpective Premiums and Bounties following; that is to ſay: FOR every Male *Indian* Enemy, above Twelve Years old, who ſhall be taken Priſoner, and delivered at any Forts garriſoned by the Troops in the Pay of this Province, or at any of the County Towns, to the Keepers of the Common Jails there, the Sum of *One Hundred and Fifty Spaniſh Dollars or Pieces of Eight*. FOR the Scalp of every Male *Indian*

Enemy, above the Age of Twelve Years, produced as Evidence of their being killed, the Sum of *One Hundred and thirty Pieces of Eight.* FOR every Female *Indian*, taken Priſoner, and brought in as aforeſaid; and for every Male *Indian* Priſoner, under the Age of Twelve Years, taken and brought in as aforeſaid, *One Hundred and Thirty Pieces of Eight.* FOR the Scalp of every *Indian* Woman, produced as Evidence of their being killed, the Sum of *Fifty Pieces of Eight.* AND for every *Engliſh* Subject, that has been taken and carried from this Province into Captivity, that ſhall be recovered and brought in, and delivered at the City of *Philadelphia* to the Governor of this Province, the Sum of *One Hundred and Fifty Pieces of Eight, but nothing for their Scalps.*[*] AND that there ſhall be paid to every Officer or Soldier as are, or ſhall be, in the Pay of this Province, who ſhall redeem and deliver any *Engliſh* Subject, carried into Captivity as aforeſaid; or ſhall take, bring in, and produce, any Enemy Priſoner or Scalp, as aforeſaid, One Half of the ſaid ſeveral and reſpective Premiums and Bounties.

GIVEN under my Hand, and the Great Seal of the Province, at Philadelphia, *the Fourteenth Day of* April, *in the Twenty-ninth Year of His Majeſty's Reign, and in the Year of our Lord One Thouſand Seven Hundred and Fifty-ſix.*

ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS.

By his Honour's Command,

RICHARD PETERS, *Secretary.*

GOD Save the KING.

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[*] Engliſh *Priſoners are adopted by the* Indians, *and have* Indian *Names immediately given them, and if killed by our friendly* Indians, *they would claim the ſame Rewards as for* Indian *Scalps.*

On 19th fourth Month 1756.

SUBSTANCE of an occaſional CONVERSATION at *Iſrael Pemberton's* (after Dinner) between *Scarroyada*, an *Indian* CHIEF, with ſeveral other *Indians*, and *Iſrael Pemberton* and ſeveral other Friends.

I. P. ſaid, Brethren!

I AM glad to ſee you here, and to have an Opportunity of informing you, That as *William Penn* and our Fathers who firſt ſettled this Province, were Men of Peace and againſt all War; ſo there are ſtill many of us their Children, who hold the ſame peaceable Principle; and We hope there are many of your People who retain a Love and Regard for your old Friends.

Scarroyada anſwer'd,

We are glad to hear this Account, for we love the peaceable Principle, and wiſh all Mankind were of that Mind; knowing that it would prevent any Cauſe of Difference or Contention between us and the Engliſh, *and take away the Occaſion of War.*

I. P.

IT gives me great Pleaſure to hear what you ſay, and that the Remembrance of *William Penn* is ſo dear to you. My Grandfather and Great Grandfather were his particular Friends and Councellors, and Men of his Principle; this is to live in Love and good Will to all Men, and I am of the ſame Principles and there are many of my Friends who really love and reſpect you, and tho' not concern'd in the Government, have good Eſtates in it, and wiſh its Wellfare and Proſperity: But we are made very ſorrowful by the bad Conduct of your Couſins the *Delawares*, who contrary to the Friendſhip they had for us have done very wickedly, and ſhed the Blood of many of our Brethren without any Cauſe given them that we know of.

Scarroyada's Anſwer.

WHAT you now ſay to us, I take it to be ſaid to all the *Six Nations*, our Brethren, and ſhall anſwer in their Name.

We are glad to hear there are ſome People left of your peaceable Principle. We wiſh you had told us ſooner, and that you had always ſpoke and acted agreeable to this Principle; for we are ſure that tho' our Couſins the Delawares *have ſtruck the Blow, they would not have hurt any of you, if they knew you as ſuch; for if you had kept them conſtantly under your Eyes, they would ſtill have been your Children.*

THE Interpreter explained this Speech of *Scarroyada*, to imply, *That both we and the* Six Nations *had too much neglected cultivating the Friendſhip, which had been between our Foreſathers; for if we had been more converſant with each other, and with the* Delawares, *they would have remain'd more ſubject to the* Six Nations *and us: But they were now grown ſtiff, like a great Tree, not to be eaſily bowed.*

But if we had manifeſted, that we had really maintained the old Principle of Love and good Will in our Hearts, they might have been kept under our Notice and Direction, as Children under a Father: And as both the Six Nations *and we had been too negligent, he hoped we ſhould reflect and alter our Conduct.*

Iſrael Pemberton ſaid,

We wiſh the *Delawares* could be reſtrained from doing any more Miſchief; and the greateſt Proof we can give of our Love and Regard for one another, is by convincing them of their bad Conduct, and engaging them to return to their Allegiance; for as the Government cannot but be highly diſpleaſed, and is determined to puniſh them; and has therefore declared War againſt them, no Doubt, but many of them will ſuffer for their Folly and Wickedneſs.

Now, if you will uſe your hearty Endeavours with them, we will likewiſe ſtand between them and our Government; for as we conſider, they have no King, and their old wiſe Men are gone, we look on them as Children, who do not know what they are doing; therefore, if they will forbear any further Miſchief, and repent, we will do all that we can to have them forgiven.

Scarroyada anſwered,

We attend to what you have ſaid, and will hold faſt [claſping his Hand and keeping it cloſe] *till we come to the* Six Nations, *and then we will lay it open in a ſtrait Line* [opening his Hand wide, with the Back of it on the Table, and ſetting his Fingers and a Pipe between them in a ſtrait Line] *and we know it* *it will be good News to them, and when I relate it to them, it will make their Hearts melt.*

Your peaceable Spirit is noble, and the great Spirit above, that is over all, will regard and take Care of thoſe that keep to it.

They were told, that ſome of our Brethren in Town would be pleaſed with an Opportunity of ſeeing them, and making our ſelves more known to them.

ON the 21ſt fourth Month in the Morning, at a Conference, preſent, *Joſhua Dixon*, *Abraham Farrington*, *Anthony Benniret*, *Anthony Morris*, *Samuel Powel*, *James Lucas*, *Mordecai Yarnal*, *Thomas Brown*, *Daniel Stanton*, *Iſaac Lane*, *Iſrael Pemberton*, *William Logan*, *John Smith*, *Samuel Abbot*, *John Reynell*, *James Pemberton*, *John Pemberton*, *Owen Jones*, *John Armit*, *Thomas Say*.

INDIANS. *Scarroyada*, *Kaagſwooghtanyonde*, *Karondow*, *Kayenquiregoa*, *Jaagrea*, *Tenoghtoga*, *Arowis*, *and ſome Women.*——Interpreters, *Conrad Weiſer*, *Daniel Clay*, *Andrew Montour*.

Gave a String of *Wampum*, requeſting their Attention to what was about to be ſaid to them, being a Matter of great Importance.

Iſrael Pemberton ſaid,

BRETHREN, The Opportunity ſome of us had of your Company the other Day has given great Satisfaction, and finding you retain ſo lively and affectionate Remembrance of *William Penn* and our Forefathers, and the Friendſhip that ſubſiſted between them and your Fathers, it has rejoyced our Brethren who have heard of it, and ſome of them are now come here to ſee you, for tho' we have long lain hid and almoſt buried by the great Numbers of other People, who are come hither, many of whom are of different Principles from us, yet we can inform you, there's a great Number in this City, and other different Parts in this Province, and ſome even on the Frontiers, where a great deal of Blood has been ſpilt, who are the Children of *William Penn*, and the firſt Settlers, that are Men of the ſame peaceable Principles, and who love you as our Brethren.

We ſhall now ariſe and ſhew our ſelves to you, for as we are ſorrowful that Differences have ariſen between your Couſins the *Delawares* and our People, we are deſirous of uſing our Endeavours to reſtore Peace, and if they will ſtop from doing further Miſchief, we ſhall be ready to ſtand betwixt them and the Government that they may be forgiven, and as a Proof of our Sincerity, we give you this Belt, [*a large white Belt*] which you ſee is without any Mixture, as our Friendſhip to you is. And as it is made of many Pieces which are ſmall, and of little Weight or Strength before they are knit together, but is now ſtrong and firm; ſo we when collected and united together ſhall appear to our Brethren.

And we deſire you by this Belt to let both the *Six Nations* and the *Delawares* know, that we have not forgot the Love and Kindneſs of their Fathers to ours. And as we are Men of the ſame peaceable Principles, we are ready to give our Aſſiſtance in any Manner we can, to put an End to the preſent Bloodſhed, and to open the Way for a Treaty, in which all Uneaſineſs may be freely open'd; and when the Grounds thereof are known, we will endeavour to get them removed in every Reſpect. [*Gave a large white Belt*.]

As you are wiſe Men, we deſire you to conſider in what Manner we may be ſooneſt able to put a Stop to the ſhedding of Blood, for as many of our Friends, of the ſame peaceable Principles with us, for whom you expreſs ſo much Regard, live in different Parts of the Province, and ſome on the very Frontiers, without ſomething be done ſoon they may be deſtroyed among others: Therefore for their Sake in particular, as well as of our Country Men in general, We are concerned to have ſome ſpeedy Stop put to the ſhedding of Blood. [*Gave a String, and ſome Medals with the King's Head.*]

Scarroyada anſwered,

Brethren, We are glad to hear what you have ſaid to us, and to underſtand by the Belt you gave us, that you offer to ſtand up as William Penn'*s Children, and that the old Principles of Peace and Love are yet in being. Your Fathers declared they had nothing but Love and good Will in their Hearts to all Men—We thought that the People of that Profeſſion had been all dead, or buried in the Buſhes, or in the Aſhes; but we are very glad that there are ſome of the ſame Men living: And that you offer to ſtand as Mediators between our Couſins the* Delawares *and this Government now at Variance. We will heartily join you herein. It is not only us few who hear you, but all the* Six Nations. *As to this Misfortune, it came upon us, as if an evil Spirit had ariſen from under Ground, and ſpread all over the Country, and the Blood was begun to be ſpilt before we had Time to think: But we muſt now all apply to the good Spirit, to aſſiſt both you and us to ſubdue this evil Spirit.*

Brethren,

We will think of the beſt Way to adviſe you, and communicate our Sentiments before we leave Town. We will fix the Medals you gave us on our Breaſts, and when ever we look on them we ſhall remember, and let others know, hat ſome of William Penn'*s Deſcendants (of the ſame Principles he was) are ſtill living.*

At a Conference the 23d. fourth Month 1756, in the the Houſe of *Iſrael Pemberton*, preſent,

Anthony Morris,
Samuel Powell,
James Lownis,
Joſhua Dixon,
Abraham Farrington,
Mordecai Yarnell,
Thomas Brown,
Daniel Stanton,
William Logan,
Iſrael Pemberton,
Owen Jones,
Anthony Binirett,
John Reynell,
John Arſnit,
Iſaac Lane,
James Pemberton,
John Pemberton,
Thomas Say,
Thomas Lightfoot,
John Smith.

INDIANS, preſent,

Indian Names.		English Names.
Scarroyada,	or	*Monakatutha,*
Kagſwooghbtanyonde,		*The Belt,*
Kayenquiregoa,		*Jonathan,*
Sadckaroynes,		*Jaggrea,*
Karondow,		*Newcaſtle,*
Otſenados,		*Senieba George,*
Oghſaghrabbe,		*Thick Leg,*
Oghiviſtoony,		*The Smith* or *Lance Indian,*
Iſyohogata,		*Green Jacket,*
Tyadaronnie,		*David,*
Thonaghtogo,		*The Cayeega,*
Waatſadacko,		*Scarroyada's Boy,*
Aroas,		*Silver Heels,*
William Lacquees,		*a Delaware.*

Interpreters.
Contrad Weeſar,
Andrew Montour,
Daniel Claces.

Scarroyada ſtanding up, ſaid,

Brethren, directing his Diſcourſe to *Onas*, by which they mean, People like minded with the firſt Settlers.

We are glad to hear ſo many of your Sort of People are now alive, that you riſe again from the Dead, and tho' we have been loſt to each other a great while, we are very glad to hear you are of the ſame Sentiments with Onas. *Since he was dead, there have from time to time come new Governours, one after another, and another Sort of People different from the firſt Settlers. And we, ſince we have loſt him (meaning* Onas) *are very glad at your riſing up, and holding the white Belt in your Hands as an Emblem of Peace, to endeavour to reconcile the People that are at War.*

We will hold faſt what you ſay, and carry it to the Six Nations, *and add Strength to it, who will be glad to hear there are ſome People of the ſame Principles of the firſt Settlers, for we have not heard of you for many Years.* [* A String.]

Brethren,

We are glad to hear you ſpeak after the Language of Onas, *and of the Principles of Peace he practiſed or recommended. We thought there were no more of the People of that Principle left in this Country. We are glad to ſee you now and hear you ſpeak. We will aſſiſt you, and lay your Belt of Peace before the* Six Nations, *who will be glad to hear of you. And tho' this may look to contradict what the Governour has ſaid to us, we don't mean ſo, let that be as it is. But we aſſure you what you propoſe to us is what we like beſt,*

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* Holding ſorth or giving this, or the like Tokens, is to demand Attention, and denotes the Speaker's ſerious and earneſt Diſpoſition; which he intends theſe Pledges to ratify.

beſt, and we will aſſiſt you in it, and ſhall ſend theſe three Indians [pointing to *Newcaſtle, Jaggrea,* and *William Lacquees*] *to* Wyoming, *with the Meſſage to let our Couſins know, there are a People riſen in* Philadelphia, *who deſire to have Peace reſtored; and that they muſt ceaſe from doing any more Miſchief, and not be afraid to be willing to treat with you: And we are ſure they will mind our Meſſage, and what we deſire will be granted.* [A ſecond String.]

Brethren,

As Things are now circumſtanced, we would not have you to venture your Lives to go, or ſend any Meſſage over the Mountains, to the Delawares *or* Shawaneſe, *they are now your and our Enemies. We will venture our Lives to make the Road clear, but do you ſtay where you are. If they have their Throats cut you cannot then hear from them; but it may pleaſe the moſt High, that they may return Meſſengers of Peace; and if they ſhould bring you an agreeable Anſwer, we ſhall then deſire you will act the Part of wiſe Men, and be careful in ſettling a Treaty, and then you may go to meet them, but do not ſtir till you hear from us.* [Third String.]

Brethren,

As we told you before, theſe three Men (two of whom are of the Council of the Six Nations, *and Warriours, and the other one of our Couſins) have undertaken to go when ever we ſhall ſend them; and perhaps it may pleaſe the moſt High to bring them back in Safety, and with an agreeable Anſwer. If they come back, take Notice of them as your firm Friends. And as you are Children of* Onas, *and ſome of us are of the Council, and ſome Warriours of the*

Six Nations; *we are very deſirous, that by your Means the Treaties of Friendſhip, which have formerly ſubſiſted between us may be renewed, and remain from Generation to Generation, that the Chain may be kept bright and never contract any Ruſt again.* [Gave a String of Wampum.]

Brethren,

We hope you will not take amiſs, our Anſwering you with ſo little Wampum, and making a Return of a Belt. The Times are very difficult with us, and we have very little Wampum here: And we look upon the white Belt you gave us, as belonging to you and us, and as an Emblem of Peace, and ſhall preſerve it as ſuch, and carry it to the Six Nations.

WE have examin'd the Foregoing, and certify, that it contains the Subſtance of the Conference held between the *Indians* and *William Logan*, and others, the 23d. fourth Mo. 1756.

Conrade Weeſer,
Daniel Claces,
Hendrick } *Montours.*
Andrew }

The preceding Minutes being called for to lay before the Governour ſooner than expected, there was not Time to review, and add the following concluding Minute, which ought to have been done, *viz.*

P. S. We are glad to hear what you have ſaid to us, as we believe it to be ſpoken in Sincerity, and what you really think; and tho' we judge it neceſſary on Matters of Importance, to obſerve the good Method practiſed by you, to take Time to deliberate; yet as we now believe you have opened the real Sentiments of your Hearts to us; ſo we being all of one Heart and Mind, and knowing that many more of our Brethren, that are all true *Quakers*, will join us herein, can without any Heſitation, readily anſwer, and aſſure you, that we receive all you have ſaid with great Pleaſure: And whatever may be the Event of our Endeavours, we hope on all future Occaſions to demonſtrate our real Love and Regard to you.

To which they all gave the uſual Expreſſion of Approbation.

Then *Scarroyada*, addreſſing himſelf to the Interpreters, ſaid,—*As we are obliged to make Uſe of your Ears and Tongues, We deſire you will be hearty, and ſincere in attending to the Buſineſs now undertaken, and to join with our Brethren and us in carrying the ſame into Execution: And he intimated that if they did ſo, they would merit our mutual Regard.*

To which *I. P.* anſwered,

We approve of the prudent Advice you give them, and we hope they will remember it, and approve themſelves worthy of our Regard; which we ſhall not be wanting to manifeſt to them in a grateful Manner, *and added*,

As you are now going on your Journey, and the Weather grows warm, We give you ſome * Handkerchiefs, to wipe the Sweat from your Faces, and ſome ſmall Matters for your Wives, with ſome more Medals, which they thankfully receiv'd, and diſtributed to each preſent, reſerving a few for ſome of their Brethren, *&c.* in Town ſick, and then *I. P.* added,

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* They are fond of large flower'd *India* Silk Hankerchiefs, about Twenty of which were given them.

As you mention'd to us, you thought we ought to apply to the good Spirit, that is over all, to ſubdue the evil Spirit, which had influenced thoſe who had done ſo much Miſchief.—We ſincerely and heartily agree with you, and ſhall fervently deſire and pray to God to change their Hearts, and that, if it be his Will, he would protect the Meſſengers now going, and grant that they may return in ſafety, and with the Meſſage of Peace; which they attended to and received with a becoming Solidity and Satisfaction.

Then *Scarroyada*, ſaid,

Brother Onas! *We that are here, both Counſellours and Warriors of the* Six Nations, *and Women*; *We return you many Thanks for what you have given us, and ſhould be glad we had Words ſufficiently expreſſive of our Love and Regard to you.*

THEN with mutual and friendly Salutations (by the good old Cuſtom of ſhaking Hands) the Conference ended.

Scarroyada, and moſt of the Indians ſet out on the 2[illegible]th fourth Mo. for *New York*, and thence to *Onondogo*, and the three Ambaſſadors under the Conduct of *A.* and *I. Spangenburg*, and others, by Way of *Bethobim* to *Wyoming*.

F I N I S.

Indianer Sachen.

At a Conference the 23d. April 4th Month 1756. in the House
of Israel Pemberton,

Present Samuel Powel,
Anthony Morris
James Lownes
John Smith
Anthony Benezet
William Logan
Israel Pemberton
James Pemberton
Abraham Farrington
John Pemberton
Owen Jones
John Reynell
John Armitt
Mordecai Yarnall
Daniel Stanton
Thomas Brown
Joshua Dixon
Thomas Say
Thomas Lightfoot.

Indians Present
Scarroyada (or) Monakatootha
Kaghswoughtaniyonde or the Belt
Kayenquiregoa or Jonathan
Jadekaronyes or Jigarea
Karondou — — — Newcastle.
Ortinados — — — Sinicha George
Oghsaghraahe — — — Thick Leg
Oghwistoony — — the Smith or Lame Indian
Jyonogata — — Green Jacket
Tyadaroonie — — David.
Thonaghtogo — — the Cayuga.
Woatsadacko — — Scarroyady's Boy
Aroas — — — Silver Heels.
William Loquies — a Delaware.

Interpreters viz
Conrad Weiser
Andrew Montour
Daniel Claus

Scarroyady standing up

Brethren, directing his Discourse to Onas (by which they mean People like minded with the firſt Settlers) We are glad to hear so many of your Sort of People are now alive, that you rise again from the Dead, and tho' we have been lost to One another a great while, We are very glad to hear you are of the same Sentiments with Onas. ſince he was dead there have from Time to Time come new Governors One after another, and another Sort of People different from the firſt Settlers, and We lost him (meaning Onas) We are very glad at your rising up and holding the white Belt in your Hands as an Emblem of Peace to endeavour to reconcile the People that are at War. We hold faſt what you say and carry it to the Six Nations and add Strength to it, who will be very glad to hear there are some people of the same Principles of the firſt Settlers, for We have not heard of you for many Years. A String.

Brethren,

We are glad to hear you speak after the Language of Onas and of the Principles of Peace he preached ~~or~~ recommended We thought there were no more of the People of that Principle left in this Country We are glad to see you now & hear you speak We will aſsist you and lay your Belt before the Six Nations who will be glad to hear of You, and tho' this may look to contradict what the Governour has said to Us We dont mean ſo, but let that be as it is We aſsure you what you propose to Us is what We like best, and We will aſsist You in it, and ſhall send these Three Indians (pointing to Newcastle Jigaria and Wm Locquies) to Wyoming with a Meſsage to let our Cousins know, there are a People risen in Philadelphia, who desire to have Peace restored and that they must cease from doing any more mischief and not be afraid to be willing to treat with you, and We are sure ~~sure~~ they will mind our Meſsage; and what We desire will be granted Second String.

Brethren,

As Things are now circumstanced We would not have you venture yourselves to go or ſend any Meſsage over the Mountain to the Delawares or Shawnese, they are now our and your Enemies We will venture our Lives to make the Road clear, but do you stay where you are, if they have their Throats cut, you can not then hear from them, but it may please the most high, that they may return Meſsengers of Peace, and if they should bring you an agreeable Answer, We then desire you may Act the Part of Wisemen and be careful in ſettling a Treaty and then you may go to meet them, but do not stir till you hear from Us. Third String.

Brethren

As We told you before these Three Men Two of whom are of the Council of the Six Nations and Warriors, and the other One of our Cousins have undertaken to go wherever We shall send them, and perhaps it may please the most High to bring them back in Safety and with an agreable Answer If they come back take Notice of them as your firm Friends and as you are Children of Onas & ſome of Us are of the Council & ſome Warriors of the Six Nations, We are very desirous, that by your Means the Treaties of Friendships, wch have formerly subsisted between Us may now be renew'd, and remain from Generation to Generation that the Chain may be kept bright, and never contract any Rust again. gave a String of Wampum

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On the 19th 4mo 1756 Subſtance of an Occasional Conversation with ſeveral Indians after Dinner at Israel Pembertons.

Present
Scarroyada, an Indian Chief
Kaghswoghtaniyonde, or the old Belt
Kayenquirigoa or Jonathan
Conaghtogo a Cayuga
Conrad Weiser
Andrew Montour } Interpreters
Daniel Claus
Jonathan's Wife & Son
William Locquies. a Delaw. Indian.

Abraham Farrington
Joshua Dixon
Israel Pemberton
Mary Pemberton
Owen Jones
Anthony Benezett
James Pemberton

J. P. addreſsing himſelf to the Indians - - ſaid

I am glad to ſee you here & to have an opportunity of informing you that as William Penn and our Fathers who firſt ſettled this Province were Men of Peace & againſt all Wars ſo there are ſtill many of us their Children who hold the ſame Principles & We hope there are many of your People who ſtill have a Love & Regard for their old Friends. 1.

To which Scarroyada reply'd

I am very glad to hear this Account, we love that Principle of Peace & wish all Mankind were of the ſame Mind knowing it would prevent any Cause of Difference or Contention between us and the English & take away the Occasion of War.

J. P. It gives me great Pleasure to hear what you ſay & that the Remembrance of William Penn is ſo dear to you my Grandfather & Great Grandfather were his particular Friends & his Counsellors & Men of the ſame Principles & there are many of my Friends who really love & reſpect you & tho' we are not concern'd in the Government have good Eſtates in it & wish its Welfare & Proſperity but we are more very ſorrowful by the bad Conduct of your Cousins the Delawares, who contrary to the Friendship they formerly had for us have done very wickedly & ſhed the Blood of many of our Brethren without any Cause given them that we know of.

Scarroyada answers.

What you now ſay to us, I take to be ſaid to all our Brethren of the Six Nations and ſhall answer you in their Name.

We are glad to hear there are ſome People left of the peaceable Principles we wish it had been told us ſooner & that you had always ſpoke & acted agreeable to these Principles, for we are ſure that tho' our Cousins the Delawares have ſtruck the Blow they would not hurt any of you if they knew you as ſuch and if you had taken ſufficient Care in Time you might have kept them under your Eyes as Children.

The Interpreters explain'd this ſpeech of Scarroyady's to imply— that We & the Six Nations had too much neglected cultivating the Friendships which had been between our Forefathers for if We had been more conversant with each other & with the Delawares they would have remain'd more ſubject to the Six Nations & us, but they were now grown ſtiff like a great Tree not to be easily bow'd. but if we had manifeſted that We had really retain'd the old Principle of Love & Goodwill in our Hearts they might have been kept under our Notice & Direction as Children under a Father & as both the Six Nations & We had been too negligent he hoped we ſhould reflect on it & alter our Conduct.

J. P. We wish the Delawares could be restrain'd from doing any more Mischief and the greatest Proof we can give of our Love and Regard for one another is by convincing them of their bad Conduct to engage them to return to their Allegiance for as this Government cannot but be highly displeas'd and is determin'd to punish them & has therefore declar'd War against them no Doubt but many of them will ſuffer for their Folly & Wickedneſs now if you will use your hearty Endeavours with them We will likewise ſtand between them & our Government for as We conſider they have no King and their wise Old Men are gone We look upon them as Children who do not know what they are doing therefore if they will forbear any further Mischief and repent We will do all We can to have them forgiven.

Scarroyada We attend to what you have ſaid & will hold it fast (clasping his Hand & holding it close;) till we come to the Six Nations where we are now going & then we will lay it open to them in a ſtrait Line (opening his Hand wide with the back of it on the Table & ſetting his Fingers & a Pipe ſtrait before;) & it will be joyfull News to them & when I relate it to them it will make their Hearts melt.

your peaceable Principle is noble & the Great-Spirit above that is over all will protect you if you ſteadily keep to it.

They were then told ſome more of our Brethren in Town who profeſsed the ſame Principle of Peace would be pleased with an Opportunity of ſeeing them & of making ourſelves more known to them.

On the 21st 4 mo. 1756. in the Morning.

at a Conference

Present		
	Joshua Dixon	William Logan
	Abraham Farrington	John Smith
	Anthony Morris	James Pemberton
	Mordecai Yarnall	Samuel Abbott
	Samuel Powell	John Armitt
	Isaac Lane	Owen Jones
	James Lownes	Thomas Browne
	Anthony Benezett	John Reynell
	Daniel Stanton	Thomas Say
	John Pemberton	
	Israel Pemberton	

J. P. First gave a String of Wampum requesting their Attention to what was about to be ſaid to them being a Matter of great Importance.

Brethren

J. P. (with a Bell in his Hand) The Opportunity ſome of us had of your Company the other Day has given us great Satiſfaction & finding you retain ſo lively & affectionate a Remembrance of William Penn & our Forefathers & the Friendship which ſubſiſted between them & your Fathers. It has rejoiced our Brethren who have heard of it & ſome of them are now come here to ſee you, for tho' we have long lain hid & almost buried by the great Numbers of others who are come hither many of whom are Men of different Principles from us yet we can inform you there is a great Number in this City & other different Parts of this Province & ſome even on the Frontiers, where a great Deal of Blood has been ſhed who are the Children of William Penn & the first Settlers that are Men of the ſame peaceable Principles & who love you as our Brethren, We shall now arise & show ourselves to you. — For we are ſorrowful that Differences have arisen between your Cousins the Delawares & our People We are deſirous of using our Endeavours to restore Peace & if they will stop from doing further Mischief We shall be ready to stand between them & the Government that they may be forgiven & as a Proof of our Sincerity We give you this Belt (a large white Belt) which you ſee is white without any Mixture as our Love & Friendship to you is & as it is made of many Pieces which were ſmall & of little Weight before they were Knitt together but is now strong & firm. So We when collected & united together ſhall appear to our Brethren & We deſire you by this Belt to let both the Six Nations & Delawares Know that We have not forgot the Love & Kindneſs of their Fathers to ours & as we are Men of the ſame peaceable Principles We are ready to give our Aſsistance in any Manner we can to put an End to the present Bloodſhed & to open the Way for a Treaty in which all Uneasineſses may be fully open'd & when the Ground thereof are Known We will endeavour to get them remov'd in every Reſpect. Gave a large Belt of white Wampum.

Brethren
as you are wise Men We desire you to consider. in what Manner We may be soonest able to put a Stop to the shedding of Blood for as many of our Friends of the same peaceable Principle with us for whom you express so much Regard live in different Parts of the Province & some on the very Frontiers without something be done soon they may be destroyed among others, therefore for their Sakes in particular as well as of our Countrymen in general we are concern'd to have some speedy Stop put to the shedding Blood.

gave a String & some Medals with the Kings Head.

Scarroyady answer'd

Brethren

We are glad to hear what you have said to us and to understand by the Belt you gave us that you offer to stand up as William Penn's Children & that the old Principles of Peace & Love are yet in Being your Fathers declared that they had nothing but Love & good Will in their Hearts to all Men; We thought that the People of that Profession had been all dead or buried in the Bushes or in the Ashes but we are very glad there are some of the same Men living & that you offer to stand as Mediators between our Cousins the Delawares & this Government now at Variance we will heartily join you herein. It is not us few only that hear you but all the six Nations, as to this Misfortune it came upon us as if an evil Spirit had arisen from under the Ground & spread all over the Country & the Blood was begun to be spilt before We had Time to think. But we must now all apply to the good Spirit to assist both you & us to subdue this evil Spirit.

Brethren
We will think of the best Way to advise you & communicate our Sentiments before we leave Town, We will fix the Medals you gave us on our Breasts & whenever We look on them We shall remember & let others know that some of William Penn's Descendants of the same Principles he was are living.

Brethren,

We hope you'll not take amiſs our answering you with so little Wampum, and not making a Return of a Belt, the Times are very difficult with us, and We have little Wampum here, and We look upon the white Belt you gave Us as belonging to you and us, and as an Emblem of Peace, and ſhall preserve it as such and carry it to the Six Nations

The following preceding Minutes being call'd for to lay before the Governor ſooner than expected there was not Time to review and add the following concluding Minutes which ought to have been done — Viz

I. P. We are glad to hear what you have ſaid to Us, as We believe it to be spoken in Sincerity, and what you really think, and tho' We judge it to be neceſsary on Matters of Importance to observe the good Method practis'd by you to take Time to deliberate, yet as We now believe you have open'd the real Sentiments of your Hearts to Us ſo We being all of One Heart and Mind, and knowing many more of our Brn that is all true Quakers will join us herein, can without any Hesitation readily answer, and aſsure you, that We receive all you have ſaid with great Pleaſure, and whatsoever may be the Event of our Endeavours We hope on all future Occasions to demonstrate our real Love and Regard to you

To which they gave the usual Expreſsions of Approbation

Then Scaroyady addreſs'd himself to the Interpreters, & said

As We are oblig'd to make use of your Ears & Tongues We desire you may be hearty and ſincere in attending to the Buſineſs now undertaken, and to join with our Brethren and Us in carrying the same into Execution, and he intimated that if they did ſo they would merit our mutual Regard.

To which I. P. answerd

We approve of the prudent Advice you give them and We hope they will remember it, and approve themſelves worthy of our Regard, wch We shall not be wanting to manifest in a grateful manner & added

As you are now going on your Journey, and the Weather grows warm, We give you some Handkerchiefs to wipe the Sweat from your Faces, and ſome small Matters for your Wives with ſome more Medals which they thankfully receiv'd & distributed to each present reserving a few for ſome of their Brethren &c. in Town ſick. And then I. P. added

As you mentiond to Us you thought We ought all to apply to the good Spirit that is over all to ſubdue the evil Spirit which had influenc'd those who had done so much Mischief We sincerely and heartily agree with you, and shall fervently desire & pray to God to change their Hearts and that if it be his Will he would protect the Meſsengers now going, & grant that they may return safely & with the Meſsage of Peace, wch they attended to & receiv'd with a becoming Solidity & Satisfactn.

Then Scarroyady ſaid

Brother Onas, We that are here both Counsellors and Warriors of the Six Nations & Women, We return you many Thanks for what you have given Us, and ſhould be glad We had Words ſufficiently expreſsive of our Love and Regard to you.

Then with mutual friendly Salutations (by the good old Custom of ſhaking Hands) the Conferences ended, & Scarroyady & most of the Indians ſet out on the 25th 4 mo for Newyork and thence to Onandago and the Three Ambaſsadors on 27th under the Conduct of A. G. Spangenberg and others by Way of Bethlehem to Wyoming.

On the 19th of 4 Mo. 1756. Substance of an occasional Conversation with Several Indians after Dinner at Israel Pembertons.

Present.

Scarroyada an Indian Chief
Kaysewooghtaniyonde or the old Bell.
Keyenquiagoa or Jonathan
Cinachtogo a Cayugo
Jonathan Wife & Son
Conrad Weiser
Andrew Montore
Daniel Claus.

Abraham Farrington
Joshua Dixon
Israel Pemberton
Mary Pemberton
Owen Jones
Anthony Benezett
James Pemberton.

I P. addressing him Self to the Indians said.

Brethren

I am glad to See You here & to have an Opportunity of informing You that as Wm. Penn and our Fathers who first Settled this Province were Men of Peace & agst all Warrs So there are still many of Us their Children who hold the Same Principles and we hope there are many of Your People who still have a Love & regard for their old Friend.

To which Scarroyada reply'd

I am very glad to hear this Account, We love that Principle of Peace & wish all Man Kind were of the Same Mind knowing it would prevent any Cause of Difference Or Contention between us & the English & take away the occasion of Warr

I P. It gives me great Pleasure to hear what You say & that the Remembrance of Wm. Penn is So dear to You My Grandfather & great Grandfather were his Particular Friends & his Councellors & Men of the Same Principles & there are many of my Frds who realy Love & Respect You & tho' we are not concerned in the Goverment have good Estates in it & wish its welfare & prosperity but we are made very Sorrowfull for the bad Conduct of your Cousins the Delawares who Contrary to the Friendship they formerly had for us have done very wickedly & Shed the Blood of many of our Brethren without any Cause given them that we know of

Scarroyada's Answer

What You may say to us I take to be said to all our Brethren of the Six Nations and shall answer You in their Name We are glad to hear there are Some People left of the Peaceable Principle We wish it had been told us Sooner & that You had always Spoke & acted agreeable to their Principle For we are Sure that tho' our Cousins the Delawares have struck the Blow they would not hurt any of You if they knew You as Such & if you had taken Sufficient Care in Time You might have kept them Under Your Eye as Children. The Interpreter explaind this — That the Expressions employed that we had been too Negligent of Cultivating our Friendship with the Indians & that if we had been more Conversant with each other the Delawares would have remaind Subject to the Six Nations & to us but they were now grown Stiff like a Strong Tree not easily bowd but if we had conversed with each other with the Same Freedom our Fore Fathers did & thereby manifested we had nothing but Love & good Will in our Hearts to them they might have been kept under our Notice as Children under a Father and the Six Nations had been Negligent as well as we he would have us Consider it & alter our Measures

I P. We wish the Delawares would be restrained from doing any

More Mischief & the greatest Proof We can give of our Love & Regard for one another is Convincing them of their bad Conduct to engage them to return to their Allegianc for as this Government can not but be highly displeased and is determined to punish them & hath therefore declared War against them no doubt but many of them will Suffer for their folly & Wickedness now if You will Use your hearty Endeavours with them We will likewise stand between & our Government for as we Consider they have no King & their wise old Men are gone We look upon them as Children who do not know what they are doing therefore if they will forbear any farther Mischief & repent We will do all we can to have them forgiven.

Scarroyada. We attend to what you have said and will hold it fast (Clasping his hand & keeping it close) till we come to the Six Nations Where we are now going & then we will lay it open in a streight Line (opening his hand wide with the back of it on the Table & setting his fingers as a Pipe streight before him) & it will be joyfull New to them & when I relate it to them it will make their Hearts melt, Your peaceable Principle is Noble & the great Spirit above that is over all & will protect You if you steadily keep to

They were then told that Some More of Our Brethren in Town who professed the sa Principles of Peace would be pleased with an Oppty of seeing them & making themSelv more knowing to them

On the 21st of ye 4 Mo. 1756 in the Morning.

At a Conference present -

Joshua Dixon
Abraham Farrington
Anthony Morris
Mordecai Yarnall
Samuell Powell
Isaac Lane
James Lownes
Anth. Benezet
Dan. Stanton
John Pemberton

Israel Pemberton
Will. Logan
John Smith
James Pemberton
Saml. Abbott
John Armitt
Owen Jones
Thos. Brown
John Reynell
Thos. Say.

First.

Gave a String of Wampum requesting their Attention to what was abou to be said to them being a Matter of Importance.

Brethren. The Oppty some of Us had of Your Company the other day hath g us great Satisfaction & finding you retain So lively and affectionate Remembran of Wm. Penn and our forefathers & the friendShip that Subsisted between them & y Forefathers it hath rejoiced Our Brethren that have heard of it & those are more of the now come to see you for tho' we have long lain hid & almost buryed by the great Number of other People which are come into this Province many of whom ar Men of different Principles from Us. yet we can inform You, there is a great Number in this City & other Parts of this Province & some even on the Frontier where a great deal of Blood hath been shed Who are the Children of Wm. Penn & the first Settlers and Men of the same peaceable Principles, who love You as our Brethren We shall now arise & Show our Selves to You, for as we are Sorrowful that differences have arisen between your Cousins the delawares & our People We are desirous of Using our Endeavours to restore Peace and if they will stop from doing any further Mischief we shall be ready to stand between them & the Governmen that they may be forgiven And as a Proof of Our Sincerity We give You this Be (a Large white Belt) which You may See is White without any Mixture as o Love & friendShip is to You & as it is made of many pieces which were Small & of weight before they were knit together but is now Strong & firm, So we when colle & united together Shall appear to our Brethren & We desire You by this Belt to let the Delawares & the Six Nations know that we have not forgot the Love and Kindness of their Fathers to ours and as we are Men of the same Peaceable Principles We are ready to give our Assistance in any Manner We can to put a Stop to the present Bloodshed and to open the Way for a Treaty, In which all Uneasiness may be freely opened and when the Grounds thereof are known we will endeavour to get them removed in every Respect

Brethren. Gave a Large Belt of white Wampum.

As You are wise Men we desire You may Consider in What Manner we may be Soonest able to put a Stop to the Shedding of Blood for as many of our Friends of the same Peaceable Principle with Us with for whom You express so much Regard Live in different Parts in this Province & some on the very frontiers without Something can be Done Soon they may be destroy'd among others therefore for their Sake in Particular as well our Country Men in General We are concerned to have Speedy Stop put to the Shedding of Blood. Gave a String & Some Medals with the Kings head.

Scarroyada's Answer.

Brethren. We are glad to hear what You say to Us and to understand by the Belt You gave Us that you offer to stand up as Wm Penns Children that the old Principle of Peace & Love are yet in Being Your fathers declared they had nothing but Love and good will in their hearts to all Men, we thought that the People of that Profession had been all dead or buryed under the Bushes or in the Ashes but we are very glad there are Some of the Same Men living & that You offer to stand as Mediators between our Cousins the Delawares & this Government Now at Variance We will heartily Join You therein It is not only us few You who hear us but all the Six Nations. As to this Misfortune it came upon us as if an Evill Spirit had risen from under Ground & Spread all over the Country & the blood was begun to be Spilt before we had Time to think, but we must now all apply to the good Spirit to assist both You and us to subdue this Evill Spirit. Brethren we will think of the best Way to advise You and Communicate our Sentiments before we leave Town We will fix the Medals You gave us upon our Breasts & whenever we look on them We shall Remember & let others know that Some of Wm Penns Friends Decendents of the same Principle are Still living. The Foregoing is the Substance of the Conversation between Israel Pemberton on behalf of the Quakers and Scarroyada an Indian Chief at Philadelphia on the 19th & 21st 4 Mo 1756.

Conrad Weiser
Daniel Claus
Hendrick Vulgo Andrew I: PI Montour.

At a Conference the 23d of 4 Mo 1756. In the House of Israel Pemberton

Indians Present.

Scarroyada or Manakatoctha
Kayshwoodhlaniyonde or the old Belt
Kuenquirgoa or Jonathan
Sadekarongyes or Tiggarea
Karondeio New Castle
Ostermados Sinicha George
Ophsaghrahh Thick Leg
Ophewisloony the Smith or Lance Indian
Tsyohogale Green Jackett
Tyadaroomi David
Thonaghtogo the Cayuga
Wantsadaka Scarroyados boy.
Aroas Silverheels
William Loquies a Delaware and Several Indian Women
Conrad Weiser
Andrew ~~Mondaure~~ Montoure
Danl Claus.

Saml Powell
Antho. Morris
James Lownes
Abraham Farrington
Joshua Dixon
Wm Logan
John Smith
Antho. Benezet
James Pemberton
Israel Pemberton
John Pemberton
Owen Jones
John Reynall
John Smith
Mordecai Yarnall
Thos. Brown

Thos Say
Isaac Zane
Thos. Lightfoot

Scarrayada Standing up

Brethren Directing his Speech to Onas (by which the mean People like minded with the first Settlers) We are glad to hear so many of Your Sort of People are yet alive that You rise again from the Dead and tho' we have been lost to one another a great while. We are very glad to hear you are of the same Sentiments with Onas, for he was dead therefore from Time to Time some new Governors one after another & another Sort of People different from the first Settlers and we lost him, (Meaning Onas) We are very glad at your rising up and holding the White Belt in Your hands as an Emblem of Peace to endeavour to reconcile the People that are at Warr. We will hold fast what you say and carry it to the Six Nations and add Strength to it who will be very glad to hear there are Some People of the same Principles with the first Settlers for we have not heard of You for many Years — A String

Brethren. We are glad to hear You Speak after the Manner of Onas & of the Principles of Peace which he preached and recommended we thought there were no more People of that Principle left in this Country we are glad to hear you Speak and see You we will assist You and lay Your Belt of Peace before the Six Nations who will be glad to hear of You & tho' this may seem to Contradict what the Governor hath said to us, we don't mean so. let that be as it is. We assure you what you propose to Us we like best & we will assist you in it & shall send these three Indians (pointing to Newcastle Jiggarea and William Loquies) to Wyoming with a Message to let our Cousins know there are a People risen in Phila. who desire to have Peace restored and that they must Cease from doing any further Mischief and not to be afraid to be willing to treat with You and we are sure they will mind Our Message & what we desired will be granted Second String

Brethren As things are now Circumstanced We would have You venture Your lives to go or to send any Message over the Mountains to the Delaware or Shawnese they are now Yours & our Enemies. We will venture our Lives to make the Roads Clear but You stay where you are if they have their throats cut You may not hear from them but it may please the most high they may return Messengers of Peace and if they should bring them an agreable Answer, We then desire You may act the Part of wise Men and be carefull in Setting a Treaty & you may go to meet them but dont Stirr till You hear from Us. Third String

Brethren. As we told You before these three Men two of Whom are of the Council of the Six Nations & Warriours & the other one of our Cousins have undertaken to go wherever we shall find them & hope it may please the most high to bring them back in Safety with an agreable Answer if they come back take Notice of them as your former Friends. & As you are Children of Onas & some of us are of the Council & some Warriours of the Six Nations We are very desirous that by Your means the Treaty of Friendship which have formerly subsisted between Us may now be renewed & remain from Generation to Generation, that the Chain may be kept bright & never contract Any Rust again Gave a String of Wampum

Brethren. We hope you will not take it amiss our answering You with so little Wampum & not making a Return of a Belt the Times are very difficult with us, we have little Wampum here & look upon the White Belt you gave us as belonging to us and You And as an Emblem of Peace and shall preserve it as such & carry it to the Six Nations

We have examined the foregoing & certifye that it contains the Substance of the Conference held between the Indians & Wm. Logan & others the 23d of April 1756

Conrad Weiser
Danl. Claus
Hendrick
Naligoandrew HM Montour

the Preceding Minutes being called for to lay before the Governour ſoon expected there was no Time to [illegible] review and add the following concluding Minutes which ought to have been done. Vizt.

J.P. We are glad to hear what You have ſaid to us we believe it to be ſpoke in Sincerity and what you realy think and tho' we Judge it neceſsary on Matters of Importance to obſerve the good Method practiſed by You to take time to deliberate yet as we now believe you have opened the real Sentiment of Your hearts to Us We ſeeing all of One heart & mind & knowing that many More of our Brethren that is all true Quakers will join Us herein can without any Hesitation readily answer and aſsure You that we receive all You have ſaid with great Pleaſure and it ſhall ever be the Point of our Endeavours We hope in all future Occaſions to demonstrate our real Love and Regard for You.

To which they gave the usual Expreſsions of Approbation

Then Scarrogada Addreſsing himſelf to the Interpreter ſaid As we are obliged to make Use of Your Ears and Tongue and deſire you may be hearty and ſincere in attending to ye Buſineſs now undertaken and to join with our Brethren & us in Carrying the ſame in Execution & he continued that if they did So they would merit our Mutual Love & regard

To which J.P. answered

We approve of the prudent Advice you gave them and we hope & will remember it & approve them ſelves worthy of our Regard which we ſhall not be wanting to manifest to them in a gratefull Manner & added As you are now going on Your Journey & the Weather grows warm We give You ſome Handkerchiefs to wipe the Sweat from Your Faces and ſome Small Matters for your Wives with ſome more Medals which they thankfully received and distributed to each present reserving a few for ſome of their Brethren &c in Town ſick & then J.P. added

As You mentioned to us we thought all to Apply to the good Spirit which is over all to Subdue the evil Spirit which had influenced those who had done ſo much Miſchief We ſincerely and heartily agree with You & ſhall frequently deſire and pray to God to change their hearts & that if it be his Will he would protect the Meſsengers now going and grant that they may return Safely with the Meſsage of Peace Which they attended to and recd. with becoming Solidity & Satisfaction

Then Scarroyada Answered

Brother Onas. We are here both Councillors & Warriours of the Six Nations & Women We return you many thanks for what you have ſaid to Us and what You have given to Us & ſhould be glad we had Words ſufficiently expreſsive of our Love and Regard for You.

Then with Mutual Friend~~lifly~~ly Salutations (by the good old Custom of Shaking hands) the Conference ended and Scarroyada and most of the Indians ſett out the 25th of 4 Mo for New York & thence to Onondago & the three Embaſsadours under the Conduct of A. J. Spangenburg & others by way of Bethlehem to Wyoming.

Conference betw
Sundry Frds & Indians
at
Israel Pemberton's

[illegible] 1755

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

I am glad to see you here at the Meeting place of all the Nations after the danger & fatigue of the Campaign. The reason of my inquiring for you immediately upon my arrival is very pressing.

Our Brother the Govr. of New York wrote me a Letter some time ago which met me at Schenectady acquainting me that the Shawanese, Delawares & River Indians were committing Hostilities in the Southern parts of this Province as well as in Jersey & Pensilvania, that they had burnt several Settlements in those Provinces & killed many of our People who never offended them; As those Indians are looked upon by us as Allies & dependants on you the 6 Nations & living within the limits of your Country, I must desire you will without loss of time reprimand them for what they have already done, prevent their doing any more Mischief, and insist upon their turning their Arms with us against the French & their Indians both your & our common Enemy & that without loss of time. This is what you engaged to do without loss of time at the General Meeting last June at my house, I am surprized you have not done

it

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& before [illegible] will now do [illegible] without [illegible] of nature will endeavour to put a Stop to their [illegible] other that Nature [illegible] Divine [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] of the Confederate Nations

[illegible] send me from time to time what [illegible] from your [illegible] it should [illegible] very [illegible] for me to know [illegible] time [illegible] depend on me [illegible] among [illegible] may be useful [illegible]

[illegible]

Brother Warraghiyagey

We are obliged to you for the [illegible] you are [illegible] we earnestly [illegible] to meet you here at our [illegible] Dangers [illegible] in our Camps [illegible] common Enemy.

It gives us the greatest concern to hear of the behaviour of our Cousins the Delawares [illegible] with the English & we assure you we shall without loss of time forward your message thro' all the Nations, & [illegible] in our power for their exerting themselves on this important Occasion.

Brother Warraghiyagey

We will also recommend it to them to keep up a constant Correspondence with us as we are sensible it is of the utmost consequence at all times but more so at present

a Belt.

Ended. (Vide pag. 144 & 145)

At a Meeting of the Mohawks, Oneidas and Tuscaroras December 26. 1755.

Sequarusera a Chief of the Tuscaroras spoke

Brother Warraghiyagey

We return you our hearty thanks [illegible] complying with the [illegible] [illegible] know [illegible] upon us [illegible] have been explained to our elders [illegible] direct having a piece of Defence made for us against the [illegible] them to a conclusion which you having promised to join & assist our Brethren the English against any attempts which the French shall make upon them

String Wampum

[illegible] an Oneida Sachem spoke

Brother Warraghiyagey

We join with our brothers the Tusca-roras in returning you our Hearty thanks for advising us to [illegible] upon our guard against the Malicious Designs of the French & that you would supply us with Large Guns Ammu-nition &c. &c.

a Belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey

We own we have been asleep or Drunk these several years past in not listening to [illegible] your youngest Brothers in joining the

Two

the Oneidas

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] are in your [illegible]
& [illegible] have been stopped & [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] a Belt

Brother [illegible]

[illegible] acquainted [illegible] some time ago by
the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] will [illegible]
[illegible] that [illegible] had [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] had [illegible] the [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] a Belt

Brother [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] to the Southward [illegible]
[illegible] have come [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] that they [illegible]
[illegible] with any but whom [illegible] Relations
[illegible] [illegible] informed that the Belt
[illegible] [illegible] directed [illegible] known
to the French [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] that they would
come & speak with [illegible] [illegible]
shall do our utmost Endeavours to put a
stop to any more Blood[illegible] that way &
we hope that you will desire the Governor
to [illegible] almost in bringing them over to
us as we are sure there is nothing draws
them from us but the large presents which
the French make them a Belt.

Brother Warraghyjagey

We have sent to the [illegible] Nation & have desired them to come to our Castle to hear from their own Mouths what they have to say to their Brethren so many of our Brothers and if they should not come upon our Message to the Castle & [illegible]. [illegible] are determined to go there & know the reason of it.

Governor Shirley promised to have a Fort built for us & Men to Garrison it & not hearing any thing about it since we think he will defer it until Spring, we hope that you will have a Fort built immediately & Men to Garrison it, since we are certain the French only wait a favourable Opportunity to fall upon us. a String —

Sir William Johnsons Answer

Feby 26 1756. [illegible]

Brethren of the Tuscaroras

I received the Friendly Speech which you made at my house when I was at New York together with your Brethren a joint part of the same in ammunition &c. I gave you as a Return. I heartily wish they may answer the End they were designed for which was to enable you to secure your selves against any Attempt of the French or any other Enemy. I highly approve of your Wisdom & timely advice to your Elder Brothers the Oneidas & am extreamly glad that you & they have at last agreed to build a place of Defence & to join your Brethren the English against any Attempts of your common Enemy the French

a Belt

11

Brethren

124 Sachems of Oneida

It would be pleasing to me to find you [illegible] for the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] together with the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] manner [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

Brethren

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] to find you [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] I have [illegible] for you [illegible] may continue [illegible] [illegible] your [illegible] [illegible] may follow the whole [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] either which [illegible] shall continue to [illegible] give you.

Brethren

You have been in your [illegible] long since I [illegible] when I sincerely acquainted you with the designs of the French encroaching on your hunting Grounds & if you had followed my ad:vice [illegible] the French would not have been [illegible] in possession of the best part of your country & bid you defiance as they now do.

[illegible]

Shake away then that Infatuation which hath so long had the better of you, recall your Wits, & in conjunction with your Father the King's Troops you may still recover your Lands and be a happy people which is the sincere Wish of your Brother & all your Brethren.

I am not surprized with the Govr. of Pensilvania's Invitation to meet him at Phila. I think you was quite right and I am glad you have taken no [illegible] attention & adhering to your Engagements had you acted otherwise it would have been a Breach of the Treaty & solemn Promises you have made to me on that head.

a Belt

To the Chiefs of Oneida & Tuscarore

I am heartily pleased to hear from you that you have not been so remiss as I imagined with regard to the Delawares & Shawanese & that you are determined to have a Conference with them, I must press you in the most strenuous Manner to exert your Authority at said Meeting & let me know the result thereof as soon as possible.

a Belt

Brethren

I heard General Shirley say he had ordered a Fort to be built for you some time ago, why his orders have not been complied with I cannot say, but this I may venture to affirm, it was not his fault, however as you now desire it may be built I will order proper persons to go

about

100

about it as soon as possible [illegible] —)

[illegible]

A Copy of a Letter of [illegible] Mr Hawley at Onohquaga to the Hon[illegible] [illegible] Johnson Dated December [illegible] 1755

[illegible] wounded [illegible]

[illegible] Indians that went from hence with [illegible] the [illegible] returned hence from Lake George [illegible] the [illegible] a Letter to your Honour in which [illegible] [illegible] the Enemy [illegible] [illegible] Delawares began [illegible] and what has happened since [illegible] the account [illegible] in which [illegible] your Honour [illegible]

[illegible] to the Message you sent [illegible] the Indians here and others [illegible] which they [illegible] desire me to [illegible] to the affair, your Honour will pardon me if I cannot be so [illegible] in the [illegible] the [illegible] the Letter I am [illegible] directed to write [illegible] [illegible]

Brother Johnson

We have been desired upon your Affairs, in the best [illegible] state what News we have. The Indians there inform us that about 2 Months ago there was a Party of Indians at [illegible] alias Chenango upon a hunting Design, and that while they were there News came there was a party of French & Indians from Ohio about there, and that Skaroyada desir'd the English party to return back & by all means to keep on the East side of the River they took his advice, & as said returned but went the West side of the River and that before they had gone far a French party came upon them, fired & drove them into the River where four of the English were drowned. Not long after this that an Englishman came to the Shawanese Town at Wyomink and was used to trade upon this River the Indians asked him whether he brought any goods with him, he said no, I brought my Body over Flesh you may do what you please with Are not you the Six Nations said he who killed our People the other day, I was there I know your Language, it was certainly you that did the Mischief, & now said he you & the English will fight, may be you think you your Uncle the Six Nations are able to stand the English, still you said he we can pinch you between our fingers, I shant cheat you & act in the Dark & underhanded as you do, but tell you plainly that the English are going to fight you. The English Man returned to the white People & told them that a great Multitude of Indians of all Nations were gathered at Wyoming &c. Then the English that way made it their Business to take as many of the Delawares who lived among or near the white People & made them Prisoners

as

[illegible] they could lay hands on, the Number they took [illegible] killed 232 male, the [illegible] [illegible] then [illegible] the Account which the Indian man brought from [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] with Difficulty & arrived [illegible] [illegible] back to Wayoming [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] taking the [illegible] [illegible] lived near the white People [illegible]

The Indians at [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Indians [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] called the Indians & [illegible] [illegible] them that the [illegible] to [illegible] with them [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] from the [illegible] [illegible] to [illegible] their commission [illegible] [illegible] in writing. [illegible] against [illegible] Manner [illegible] they [illegible] and the [illegible] [illegible] the Indian [illegible] done [illegible] [illegible] put "he [illegible] [illegible] that the Indians took "[illegible] their Hatchets [illegible] them all on the head except the [illegible] [illegible] and there [illegible] and was [illegible] [illegible] that [illegible] Peace. thus Brother [illegible] We have [illegible] given you [illegible] [illegible] how the [illegible] between the Indians [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] that what has happened since if they proceeded in a pack of Lyes we did not begin it. Now my Brother we will give you the answer of the Delawares to the Message you sent by the Onas [illegible] Council our Nephews [illegible]

[illegible]

Brother we want to know what is the reason of the Quarrel which is among our Brothers in the Quarrel, you say we are ignorant of it, so are we, we dont know the reason of this Quarrel. Brother as you say we are not at our own Command but under the Direction of the Six Nations we are Women, we must do as our Uncles say. This fall Brother we saw not the Hatchet we are poor women we have got out of Company we are much obliged to you Brother that you tell us to stop & leave off that which we have done & so we hear you, we stop & desist. But Brother Johnson some of our young Men a few days ago went out again to the English we cant help it but we have sent after them as soon as we hear from you Brother to stop & call them in.

Now Brother you must take care on your side too. Many of our people are Captives among the English we must see every one of them returned again or else it will not be well. We shall wait two Months to see whether our Captives are given up, and if we dont see them then we dont know what we shall do. When we see our people again then we shall contrive to make up the Matter & settle Affairs & not till then.

They

Thus, Brother [illegible] you have been drawn [illegible] to your Village

Now Brother we that are young ones here would say a few words, by which you shall hear from our Heads [illegible] for ours, according to the English Custom house paper enclosed [illegible]

Brother [illegible]

[illegible] Doubt you can in your [illegible] Doubt we can [illegible] [illegible] to [illegible] those things [illegible] and Harmony [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] make [illegible] right again [illegible] [illegible] been [illegible] [illegible] Delawares our Nephews [illegible] Brother [illegible] that we & we need not doubt but we shall gain the point.

We would [illegible] that [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] went [illegible] [illegible] 150 [illegible] set out from [illegible]

[illegible] that the [illegible] [illegible] just at Sunset [illegible] the [illegible] to set out [illegible] in the Morning [illegible] this month [illegible] I rely on your [illegible] your Honour [illegible] affairs [illegible]

[illegible] at [illegible] [illegible]

To Sir William Johnson Esqr

I propose to your Honours consideration whether it would be well for the English to build a Fort & keep a garrison here I don't at all think that the Delawares design to be peaceable & a Fort here perhaps you will see necessary to keep the rest of the Indians in this River in order.

Fort Johnson Decr 1. 1756.

At a Meeting of the Oughquagas, Tuscaroras, Skaniadaradighronos, Chugnutts, Mohicanders & Shawanese — Thomas chief Speaker stood up went thro the Ceremony of condolance for the loss of the Generals Sister & Brother in Law and then proceeded as follows

Brother Warraghiyagey

We will now open our Hearts to you & throw off the Burden which lays so heavy upon us, it grieved us much to hear it was suggested that all the Indians living upon the Banks of the Susquahana even as far as Oughquaga, had joined the French. We assure you it is a false Report and we appeal to you Brother whether we have not since your Acquaintance with us always proved true Brethren to the English & strictly adhered to the Engagements made so long ago between them & our forefathers & depend upon it we ever shall notwithstanding all the temptations of the French. what we now say comes not from our Lips only but from the very bottom of our hearts.

Brother Warraghiyagey

We speak to you in the behalf of the Oneidas Tuscaroras Shanedaragroeing & Chughnutts & we may say we speak also in the behalf of the Senecas who have been invited to Chughnut who are to begin to settle & live under our protection & the Delawares [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] that live near the [illegible] & have given the strongest Assurances that they will join us with their [illegible] in consequence of that all [illegible] the same Brethren in [illegible] with the [illegible] [illegible] Belts between us them & they left us here to deliver to you as a Testimony thereof.

Gave the Belt

Brother Warraighiyagey

We beg leave to lay our immediate danger & Distress before you. We are now intirely exposed to the merciless power of the French & their Indians our & your common Enemy. their Hatchet is ready to fall on our Heads, their Indians who live not far from us threaten us, for our attachment to you Brother, call us English & we truly are so. Now Brother our earnest Request is that you would build us a small place of Defence wherein our old Men Women & Children may have shelter in this time of Danger & that you would also supply us with Arms Ammunition &c. wherewith to defend our selves from any attempts the Enemy may make upon us.

Gave a Belt.

Feb.y

February 2.d 1756.

At a Meeting of the Oneidas, Tuscarores, Scaniadaradighroonas, Chugnutts & Mohicanders

General Johnson's Answer to their Speech of Yesterday.

Present

The Hon.d W.m Hawley — Interpr.rs
Lieut. Miller — M.r Daniel [illegible]
M.r Reed — [illegible]
W.m Printup

Canadagai a Mohawk Chief spoke for the General as follows

Brethren of the Oneida Tuscarores &c

I approve much of your openness of Heart to me on this Occasion, and as it is the surest way of having your Minds eased I would advise you as I have often your Brethren of the Six Nations, always to follow that Method and you may be assured I will endeavour to ease your Minds & do every thing in my power to contribute to your Happiness. As to the idle Surmises or Reports spread by any evil minded silly People who know nothing of your Sentiments or the state of your or our Affairs, I must desire you will not give ear to such nor be in the least uneasy at them, for their words are like Wind & not to be noticed. If at any time your Minds are disturbed or that you labour under any Difficulties let me know it immediately & you may depend upon Relief. The strong assurances you now & always have given me of your Attachment to your Brethren the English & of your gathering together gives me the greatest pleasure & will animate me to take the more care of you which you may depend

114.

[illegible] as long as you continue stedfast friends to the English which you will ever find your Interest to do. A Belt

Brethren

Since we have considered & agree with your Opinion that your present Situation is far from being safe, having so treacherous & deceitful an Enemy as the French & their Indians drawn to us on the one side and those blindfolded rash Indians who know not their own Interest on the other side. Therefore agreeable to your request I shall immediately have a Fort built for the saffety of your old People Children & Friends living in and about there I will also supply it with Arms Ammunition &c. to defend said Fort against any attempt the Enemy or their Indians may make upon you. keep a good look out & if at any time you find a Design against you let me know it & I will come immediately to your assistance, this I confirm by this Belt of Wampum A Belt

Feb. 17th 1756

The Answer of the Aughquageys, Tuscaroras, Shaniadarigroenes, Nanticokes, Chugnutts & Shawanese. Adam Speaker

Brother Warraghiyagey

We the several Nations of Indians living at & about Susquahanna River & its Branches, here present return you our most hearty thanks for your kind compliance with our Request as well as for the great regard you show for our

[illegible] by coming to me in person to our
Assistance should there be occasion at any time, as
of this convincing proof of your Fidelity as [illegible]
which I have experienced the several Obligation
and be assured we [illegible] shall never forget it
as long as the Waters of Susquehanna run.

A Belt Wampum

Gave the Shout of approbation

Satdy 9th. Sent [illegible] an express to [illegible] Wampum to know the reason of the Senecas delay.

Sunday 10. Not hearing from them & as all the other Nations waited their [illegible] impatiently, I sent Jacobus Clement one of the Interpreters to bring them down speedily.

Monday 11. three Onondaga Warriors arrived at (my House with three Strings of Wampum from the Sachems acquainting me that their Nation the Cayugas & [illegible] were making all the haste possible & would be here to morrow in a Body.

In the afternoon the Onondagas & Cayugas arrived & told me that 50 Senecas would be here to morrow ~~in a body~~

The Mohawk Sachems came to me with an Express from their Brethren the Conajoharys acquainting them & me that the Oneidas & Tuscaroras were to be a Fryday at their Castle in order to condole the Death of the great Hendrick & the other Chiefs of that Castle who were slain at Lake George & desired their & my attendance at the Ceremony. I gave them the proper Belts of Wampum on that Occasion & desired they would act for me as I could not possibly attend, there being so many Indians at my House &c.

they

which they readily agreed to [illegible].

[illegible]

[illegible] have been uneasy [illegible] after our Brethren [illegible] taking the reason of this we have [illegible] of the heads of our people they are [illegible] among us meaning the condoling the Capt. & several of their people who were killed since they travelled that road before particularly at Conajohary where we have lost two great Men in their stead or room we have been appointing others; our Brethren of the other Nations have perfectly unrequited this which we think wrong. now we are here compleat [illegible] you will be easy in your mind.

A Belt.

Brother Warraghiyagey

Seeing we have now quieted your mind, we beg you will think & speak cooly otherwise it may be of ill Consequence to us as our Welfare depends assist greatly in your next Deliberations

a Belt

Brother [illegible]

[illegible] the affairs of the [illegible] you [illegible] having [illegible] take this [illegible] weigh [illegible] that [illegible] may interrupt [illegible] Deliberations.

[illegible] 10 [illegible]

The Answer to the Virginia Speech

Brethren In your Council yesterday you excused your Sachems & warriors staying at your Castles so much longer than the rest of your Brethren the time appointed the Reasons you have given for it are a sufficient Apology [illegible] and you have done every thing necessary on your part agreable to your Customs & the Rules laid down to you by your wise Ancestors the manner of your appearing now at this Council & at so bad a season of the year gives me great pleasure as it plainly demonstrates your regard to my Invitation

a Belt

Brethren I thank you for the prudent & wise steps you have taken to quiet my mind at this time I assure you it is quite settled my thoughts fixt upon nothing so much as what may tend to your welfare & that of all our Brethren in general.

a Belt

Brethren I have had this Council Room (on my inviting you at the request of the Nations to it) well cleaned but as you imagined it might have

me by your staying so much longer than the appointed time to meeting I gathered from it I am glad you have taken the resolution [illegible] in other matters [illegible] the least [illegible] Consultations
gave a String Wampum

[illegible] 16th July

The [illegible] Nations & the upper Mohawk [illegible] were [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Castles [illegible] [illegible]

Sp. 2d

Brother Warraghiyagey

We return you our hearty thanks for the care you have taken in fortifying our Castle [illegible] Summer agreeable to our Desire [illegible] of Government [illegible] for the security of our Wives & Children in [illegible] this spirit a[illegible] necessary [illegible] from the many [illegible] we [illegible] the French & Indians [illegible] our attachment to you We earnestly desire there may be an Officer & proper number of Men posted there as soon as possible for our Defence.
a Belt.

Sir Wm Johnsons Answer.

Brethren of Conajoharey.

As I am fully convinced of your Sincerity & Attachment to His Majestys Interest I readily comply with your request not doubting but it will be very agreeable to your Father the Great King who has nothing more at heart than the safety & Welfare of you his faithful Children. As an assurance of what I say and promise I give you this Belt of Wampum.
gave a Belt.

At a Meeting & 586. of the Six Nations & their Allies at Fort Johnson 18 Febr 1756.

Present

The Honble William Johnson Esqr sole Superintendant of Indian affairs

The Revd Mr Ogilvie
The Revd Mr Hawley
Capt. Beckwith
Lieut. Miller
Lieut. Dunbar
Lieut. Pottinger
Lieut. Mills

Lieut. Lottridge
Capt. Butler Officer of Indian Affairs
Several Gentlemen
Robt. Adams Deputy Secry.
& Wm. Printup Interpr.

The Superintendant's Speech

Brethren of the Six united Nations.

I have heard with great Concern that a War Party of the Senecas the most remote Nation of the Confederacy have had a considerable mis-understanding with their Brethren the English to the Southward which has been fatal to some of that Nation. I am extreamly unable to express my Sorrow for that unhappy Affair and as the Hatchet remains fixed in your heads, I do with the greatest affection & tenderness remove it thence.

a Belt

Brethren With this Belt I cleanse & purify the Beds of those who fell in that unfortunate affair from the defilement they have contracted

a Belt

Brethren I am informed upon that unhappy affair you have lost three of your principal Warriors I do with this Belt cover their dead Bodies that they may not offend our sight any more & bury the whole affair in eternal Oblivion

a Belt

Brethren
I have [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]ent
C[illegible] [illegible] Head [illegible] C[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] walk
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible]thing
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Alexander [illegible]
[illegible] C[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] pressed upon
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] C[illegible]
[illegible] Ceremony [illegible] [illegible] A Belt

[illegible] performed the Ceremony of
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
C[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Skaroyady
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] the Condolence [illegible] Sincerely
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Sincerer that
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] walk
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Your nearest & dearest
Friends [illegible] your [illegible] therefore [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] stained as [illegible]
[illegible] C[illegible] with this Belt [illegible]
[illegible] that they may no more offend your
sight
A Belt

Brethren of the Onondagas, Oneidas,
Tuscaroras, Skaniadaradighronos Aughqua=
geys & the Mohocks of both Castles
I perform the same Ceremony to you.
After this Ceremony six French Prisoners
some of those who were taken at the late
Battle near Lake George were delivered with
great Ceremony to the Indians in order to replace
the following Indians who were killed in
that Battle viz Tiyanoga alias Hendrick - Tar=
ragheyoras - Wani:a one of Conajohery - Skayawao
Onienkoto of the Mohocks - Nicaanawa Skarayadys
Son

ker, and Cayadanorong a Tuscarore.—

They received these Prisoners with the greatest mark of Gratitude & Satisfaction every Nation giving the Shout of Approbation & then carried off said Prisoners to their respective Quarters.

Suspended the Ceremony on these Occasions agreeable to their Customs

[illegible]

[illegible]

Present

Sir Wm Johnson Baronet
[illegible] Mr [illegible]
[illegible] Mr [illegible]
Capt. Butler
[illegible]
[illegible] & other Interpreters
[illegible]

Speaker [illegible]

To the [illegible] the [illegible] taken place [illegible] hearty thanks for your great Effect in wiping our Tears & giving [illegible] Sorrow from our Hearts, and we in the same perform the same Ceremony to you with the like hearty Affection — a String of Wampum.

Brother We are sensible of your goodness expressed to us in removing the Cause of our Grief & tenderly taking the Ax out of our Heads.
a Belt

Brother We are thankful to you for clearing the Clouds out of our sight agreeable to the Custom of our Forefathers. a Belt

Brother We are thankful likewise for your covering the Graves of those who were slain in that unhappy Affair

Brother Warraghiyagey

We acknowledge your [illegible] which still keep
[illegible] murders which were [illegible] diminished and
that you have so [illegible] remedied [illegible] that
Harmony that has always subsisted between our
[illegible] Although the British and [illegible]
[illegible] has been done [illegible] Majesty [illegible]
from Father to Son. We again [illegible] attention
to your Advice which we are convinced tends to
[illegible] that we hope that
[illegible] affairs [illegible] between
a Belt

[illegible] thanks to the General for the assistance
of [illegible] with a Belt
Belt

[illegible] acknowledge the same with
a Belt
[illegible] the same.
[illegible] answer them
[illegible] the same

Brother Warraghiyagey
[illegible] united [illegible]
[illegible] with the greatest thankfulness acknowledge
your [illegible] affection in thus effectually
cleansing & purifying all our Habitations
from the Blood & Resentment that they had
contracted by the Death of so many of our
principal Men   a Belt.

The Speaker then took up a large Belt w^ch^ Gen^l^ Johnson gave with an Emblem of the Six Nations joined hand in hand with us & spoke as follows

Brother Warraghiyagey
Look with Attention on this Belt
& remember the Solemn & Mutual Engagements
we

we entreated that you would first take upon you the Ma-nagement of our Affairs be assured we look upon them as sacred & shall on our parts punctually perform them as long as we are a people.

A prodigious large Belt

The Speaker then took up another very large Belt which had been given them by the Govt. of New York some years ago.

He then recited the solemn promises which were then made them & the [illegible] of [illegible] the then [illegible] words [illegible]

Brother Warraghiyagey

You [illegible] Brother [illegible] will certainly remember the promises made to us by this Belt & [illegible] perform them as we promise to do the same we have it recorded in our Memory.

Gave a very large Belt

Brother Warraghiyagey

You said the Governor of Philadelphia have asked us what reason we can possibly assign for the Barbarous Behaviour of our Nephews the Delawares, all we can say at present is that they are deluded by the Craft & subtilty of our old perfidious Enemy the French, but we promise on our part we will try by all means to stop their proceeding further in their Hostilities & hope you will do the same

3 Strings of Wampum

Brother We earnestly entreat you will imme-diately acquaint all the Govts. concerned that we the Six Nations have not been inattentive to this important Affair, but have already sent some of our people to take the Hatchet out of the hands of our Nephews the Delawares & we should be glad that you would draw your Troops from the Frontiers, then we will endeavour to bring

our

[illegible] the [illegible] with.
[illegible] they have taken [illegible] between the
[illegible] to make the [illegible]
[illegible] for their [illegible]
[illegible])

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] 1750

[illegible] having
[illegible] hindrance
as follows.

[illegible]

with my [illegible] the [illegible] of the six Nations, embrace the first Opportunity of [illegible] you [illegible] that nothing but my [illegible] hearing your Sentiments from your own Mouth could have induced me & my young Men to take such a Journey at this Season of the year, [illegible] Council of our Sachems [illegible] Meeting at the [illegible] We are now here at the fire place of all the Nations & assure you we are heartily glad to see you.

Brethren of Cannuchage

As I have nothing more at heart than the welfare of the Six Nations & their Allies,

If

It always gives me the most sensible pleasure to see you or hear from any of them and more especially you whom I never saw before and it affords me an opportunity of commencing that acquaintance & friendship with you which is natural among Brethren and which my inclination will always lead me to improve especially with so brave a People as your Nation have always been deemed

Feb.ry 20. 1756.

The Hon.ble Sr William Johnson's Speech to the Six Nations
Present
The Revd Mr Ogilvie
The Revd Mr Hawley
Capt. Beckwith
Lieutenants Miller Dunbar Billinger Lee Kennedy Mills Ensign Penitent several Indian Officers & other Gentlemen and 3 Interpreters.
Capt. Adams Deputy Secr. (14

Brethren of the Six United Nations with your Allies & Dependants

It always gives me the most solid pleasure to meet you in this place that we may felicitate ourselves in the cherishing warmth & Light of that Fire kindled here for our mutual good. May it ever burn bright as the Sun that illuminates & regulates the Day that you & your posterity to the latest Generations may enjoy its Benevolent Influence

A Belt

Brethren It gives me a particular satisfaction to meet you here at this time for two important reasons. The one is that it affords me an opportunity of a friendly Interview under the shade of that Tree which was wisely [illegible] & judiciously planted and of calmly consulting & maturely deliberating upon Matters of the utmost consequence and which nearly concern our mutual Safety Welfare & Honour

A Belt

The

[illegible] [illegible] that it [illegible] [illegible] Prudently [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Brethren [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Father [illegible] the time of the [illegible] [illegible] happy [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] place you [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Settlers in the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Settlements by [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] shall prove a means [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Blessings upon [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] A Belt

Inasmuch as [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] have been [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] your [illegible] [illegible] Enemy has [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] appears in the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] glory [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the Shame of our [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] universal [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the same [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Father in the public [illegible] [illegible] thanks for your [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] your gallant Behaviour last Summer & [illegible] in that action. this gives him reason to expect the like fidelity & courage in Conduct from you all for the future, & greatly endears you to him who [illegible] as his loving Subjects your affectionate Brethren.

A Belt.

[illegible] animate me with fresh pleasure & satisfaction at this important Conjuncture of Affairs to brighten & strengthen the Covenant Chain that has so long linked us together in mutual

Friendship & Brotherly Affection which I hope will continue inviolable as sure as long as the Sun shines or the Rivers continue to water the Earth notwithstanding all the ~~[illegible]~~ Schemes of our old perfidious Enemy who have left no means unessayed especially at this time to weaken & divide us that so they may in the Event root out the Remembrance of your name & Nations from the Face of the Earth

. Large [illegible] Belt.

Brethren On my arrival from Lake George last December I had from your Brother the Govr. of New York & also from the Govr. of Pensilvania the Melancholy Accot. of your Nephews the Delawares & Shawanese falling upon your Brethren of Pensilvania Maryland & Virginia in the most cruel & treacherous manner [illegible] killing the innocent Defenceless people who lived on the Frontiers of said Governments burning & destroying all they had and that without any just Cause or Reason or Provocation. I thereupon communicated immediately to you by one of your own people a Message with a Belt of Wampum desiring you would without loss of time put a stop to your Nephews spilling any more of your Brethrens Blood & that you would enquire into & let me know the reasons for such their wicked unparalleled Behaviour to the Kings Subjects your Brethren & Friends. I now repeat the same & expect to hear what you have done in consequence of said Message & Desire. Brethren

tell you with concern that I plainly foresee
unless you the Six Nations who have always
maintained a superiority over those Indians use
your power & your voice in this case you will not
only lose that Authority which they hitherto
acknowledged but will have them your Enemies

a large black Belt

Brethren, The Governor of Pen-
silvania had acquainted me with the hope
he had of your [illegible] the Shawanese & Dela-
wares [illegible] your [illegible] endeavours to
remove [illegible] Content to [illegible] with Virginia
[illegible] there [illegible]
[illegible] will pay great regard to his Message
to afford him all the assistance you can in bring-
ing that unhappy affair to as good an Issue
as possible.

a String

Brethren, I am now to acquaint you
that the Great King of Britain your Father
on the death of the late Gen^l Braddock has
committed the command of all his forces upon
the [illegible] upon the Continent of America
to General Shirley whom in a particular man-
ner commanded him to protect your Country
& the Lands which your forefathers have con-
quered and fought for, their [illegible] against
all violence & to drive the French our
common Enemy & to cultivate a strict Friend-
ship between him and you and to take the first
opportunity of communicating this to you by
me & of assuring you of his Attention & of my
[illegible] to follow his Majesty's Instructions herein

a Belt of Black Wampum

Brethren
General Shirley also desires me to acquaint you that he is to have a great Army this coming Spring for the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] part of it [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] shall be held in readiness to Defend you against any Attempts the French may make before the opening of the Campaign.

A Belt

Brethren On my return from New York [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] information of the Design of the French [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] & others. I was extremely obliged to you for your friendly zeal [illegible] which you immediately acquainted me with [illegible] Sir Charles Hardy [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] extremely pleased with you for the [illegible] you have [illegible] [illegible] & [illegible] [illegible] will not only continue your Vigilance but will also [illegible] ready [illegible] unalterable. [illegible] Brethren [illegible] these which I [illegible] you [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] with [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] were called upon [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] they may be employed [illegible] [illegible] of war however [illegible] [illegible] Intention to stand by you & protect you as well as his [illegible] subjects against the Insults or Attempts of any Enemy whatever. Believe me Brethren this is the proper time to convince your Father the great King of England & your Brethren of your Sincerity & Attachment to their Interest by your acting vigorously with us [illegible] which I [illegible] heartily advise you to do as it is of the utmost consequence to our mutual Interest.

A large Belt.

Brethren

[illegible] we are acquainted [illegible] that

[illegible] giving

[illegible] Invitation &

[illegible] friends & they [illegible]

[illegible] Michael [illegible]

[illegible] Father

the Great King [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] happy [illegible]

a Belt

[illegible] 4 1750

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] with the [illegible]

[illegible] at this [illegible] place [illegible] that it may [illegible] to the latest posterity [illegible] endeavour [illegible] our [illegible] full strength [illegible] as long as the Sun & Moon endureth

a Belt

Brother

We acknowledge that this Tree was voluntarily & sincerely planted for our mutual Welfare its Roots reach to the remotest Habitations of the Confederacy & its Branches afford a friendly retreat to us & all our Allies & Dependants. Brother take a tender care of it see that it is refreshed frequently by friendly Streams that it may increase & spread its Branches so far that it may give a sufficient Shade not only for us but also for all other Nations which may hereafter come into our Alliance

a Belt

Brother

We heartily rejoice with [illegible] upon our [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] pleasure

a Belt

Brother We are extremely well pleased that [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] highly acceptable to the great King our Father

a Belt

Brother [illegible] [illegible] that we on our part do with equal [illegible] be friendship [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] indissoluble connection [illegible] brighten and strengthen the Covenant Chain that has so long united us together, & has mutually established the sacred Engagements notwithstanding the restless Endeavours of our [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] their [illegible] endeavour to [illegible] their treachery Designs that [illegible] may reap the good Effect of this our Union which has long been the Object of their Envy. With this Belt we do most solemnly renew the Engagements & the antient Covenant Chain

a Belt.

Brother We always looked upon the Delawares as the more immediate care of Onas, & that they were within the Circle of his Arms, we are therefore of Opinion that he has not taken that friendly care of the Govr. of Pensilvania.

13[illegible] [illegible] of them [illegible] brought to [illegible] and the Indians com[illegible]

mon Enemy [illegible] taken [illegible] they began

[illegible] that if there had been

proper measures taken they would all have

[illegible] in the English Interest

a Belt)

Brethr[illegible] We [illegible] of the Gov[illegible]

[illegible] in appointing General Shirley [illegible]

[illegible] and we [illegible]

[illegible] particular [illegible]

[illegible] friendship

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Belt)

Brethren [illegible] the [illegible]

[illegible] that [illegible] in the Governm[illegible]

[illegible] themselves [illegible] of

[illegible] may [illegible] you

[illegible] that as the French find

that neither [illegible] have

not [illegible] they may throw up

their [illegible]

[illegible] like the Wolves of the Wilderness.

a Belt

Brother We complain that the Information

we gave with [illegible] the (Mohocks) the

French [illegible] these [illegible]

[illegible] our Brethren the English, and we

join [illegible] the other to keep up a strict

[illegible] The [illegible] has been frequently put into the Hands of your Forefathers by your Brethren the English & they always used it with the greatest Sign till it was taken out of their hands. We assure you that we intend punctually to conform to the bright & brave Examples they set us and we hope this will be a sufficient proof of our Sincerity & Interest to the great King our Father

a Belt

Brother

Your proposal of taking a live Ember from the Fire at Onondaga to kindle a Fire at Oswego & meeting us there this Spring is highly acceptable to us. & we have good reason to think that the Light & warmth of that Fire will invite many Nations to meet us there. And we make no doubt that the things you will propose to their consideration will carry such light & conviction with them as will be sufficient to engage them to join our interests, but we promise to use our utmost Endeavours to accomplish that great Point and we doubt not that our Posterity & children will have reason to remember that happy day. Brother we very cheerfully concur with this your proposal as we are convinced you will propose nothing but what is for our mutual Interest.

a Belt

Brother Warraghiyagey

We have now opened our minds with freedom & sincerity we understand each other clearly & we shall surely remember our Engagements which we have so solemnly renewed, and if at any time our Enemies should attack us prove by your readiness to support & assist us that you really love us and we assure you we shall not be wanting on our parts to give proofs of the like fidelity & friendship

a Belt

JL

[illegible] Meeting of the [illegible]

[illegible] 185[illegible]

Secy

[illegible] Wm [illegible]

[illegible] Mr. [illegible]

[illegible] Mr. [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Brethren

[illegible] state [illegible] [illegible] right [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

Brethren [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] had happened [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]

Brethren [illegible] you that [illegible] [illegible] to deliver to you [illegible] your attendance

[illegible]

Brethren [illegible] proposed [illegible]

[illegible]

here at this Season of the year was to have that affair of the Delawares and Shawanese settled but I am sorry to find you are not so hearty in the affair as I expected you would, for at this important time you ought to be. I must therefore urge you most strenuously to settle upon until this affair before you leave the place and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] as lost [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] with the [illegible] with the [illegible] of this [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] depend.

[illegible] Belt)

Brethren [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] place [illegible]

1 [illegible] with them which [illegible] [illegible] between friends [illegible] without which [illegible] friendship [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

2 [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] by all the Governments [illegible] [illegible] both [illegible] the English who have always been your steady Friends & are determined ever to continue such, besides they are the ablest & will be the readiest to protect & defend you from any attempts of an Enemy, and moreover they will supply you and all your Allies with the necessarys of Life at a cheaper rate than the Frenchmen

3 Be not any longer cajoled, blindfolded & imposed on by the Artful Speeches of the French for

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] in that they would [illegible] not of the way [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Bullets [illegible]

[illegible] the whole [illegible] is not easy to reason [illegible] the [illegible] you will [illegible] divided Dissension in stead of that [illegible] the Mind [illegible] threats [illegible] against you be not afraid of them cleave to your [illegible] the English [illegible] they cannot hurt you

If you duly observe these wholesome admonitions, you will again become numerous & retrieve your pristine Fame. the very name of the

[illegible]

Six Nations & this Alliance will be a terror to their Enemies and their Enemies will not any longer act with them as heretofore

But Brethren & Cousins if you continue to linger in your past lethargick supine State & neglect this my friendly advice & earnest Desire, I greatly fear you will sooner or later have cause to regret it & perhaps too late [illegible] you had followed it. Let all your youngest People hear what I say & your Wisest Old Men consider it & let your [illegible] Memory Witness, let me that I have given you all this timely & wholesome advice, take this Pipe to your great Council Chamber at Onondaga & let it hang there during which you be [illegible] in your Council at any time take & smoke out of it & think on my advice & [illegible] with it upon all [illegible] & think properly

Gave the largest Pipe in America
made on purpose

As it is late now I shall deliver you the Presents I have got for you to morrow Morning by which time I hope to have your definitive Answer to those points I have spoke to you upon.

Feb.ry 24. 1756.

At a Meeting of all the Six Nations
Present
The Hon.ble Sir William Johnson
Secretary Mr Wraxall
The Rev.d Mr Hawley
Capt Butler with other Indian officers
Five Interpreters

Brother Warraghiyagey.

You have very reasonably put us in mind of that superiority which we by a series of Conquests have attained over the Delawares & Shawanese & others. We are sensible of it & therefore no sooner did you send us [illegible] of their Treacherous & Barbarous Behaviour but as [illegible] [illegible] nearly commenced [illegible] [illegible] immediately dispatched a Message to them [illegible] into the [illegible] their [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] dispatched a second Message with equal warmth but both, coming [illegible] [illegible] an [illegible] by the means of our Brethren of [illegible] this Meeting we Remind [illegible] [illegible] indignation we Shook them [illegible] [illegible] the reasons of their conduct [illegible] put [illegible] Man [illegible] the Behaviour [illegible] the Covenant [illegible] between the [illegible] Kingdom

Reply

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] already [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] from [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] to [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] devastation [illegible] have been [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] that we will use our [illegible] [illegible] agreed [illegible] return [illegible] [illegible] Governors [illegible] the firm [illegible] of the whole Confederacy to conform themselves entirely to your reasonable Request in this important point but as the Mohocks [illegible] the head of our Confederacy we leave the management of that affair entirely to them

We are convinced that the Great Spirit who governs all things has directed them in this important undertaking & it will greatly contribute to our mutual Happiness & Strength.

They performed with a large Belt

Brother Warraghiyagey

The Mississagas acknowledge a Message sent them by General Amherst last year giving them an Invitation to meet him at Oswego. They answered that the Season of the year was too far advanced to admit of a Meeting then, but that they promise to come early in the Spring, & be attentive to what their Brethren the English have to say. They desired that this thing might be kept a Secret as it might be interrupted by the French, for should they be acquainted with their Design of meeting the English they feared they would fall upon & destroy them.

A String of Wampum

Brother Warraghiyagey

Be attentive to what I now propose. They are the real Sentiments of the 5 Nations not merely the Sounds not barely the sounds of their Breath but the genuine Resolutions of their Hearts. Look upon this Belt † as a Pledge of our inviolable Attachment to you & of our unshaken Resolution of joining you in all your measures. Our Determinations are founded upon clear Convictions, as clear as that Sun which is now shining in the Firmament. We shall send this Belt to the Senecas, that from this Council it may be conveyed to the remotest Nation as an Evidence of the Happiness we enjoy by your union at the same time kindly inviting them to come in & join our Covenant Chain; Brother you may depend upon this as our Resolution which we will put into immediate execution. What you have said with regard to the Trade we look upon as a convincing proof of your love & affection to us, and it gives us pleasure that it now becomes a matter of serious consideration with you. We are sensible of your being able to supply us with all the necessaries of life cheaper & better than the French can possibly do. & Brother there is nothing you should more seriously attend to as it would greatly contribute to cement that Friendship & that Unity between us, and would be the most likely means of bringing in the most remote Nations to an acquaintance & Union with us.—

---

† this Belt was the largest ever given, upon it was wrought the Sun by way of Emblem of Light & some Figures representing the Five Nations. It was intended to signify that they now saw Objects in their proper Light & that they were fully convinced of the truth of every thing proposed

A prodigious large Belt

(The General had frequently insisted upon knowing their Resolutions with respect to the Ravages committed by the Delawares &c this paragraph is intended as an Apology for their not making their Answer sooner

Brother Warraghiyagey

You have most earnestly & frequently pressed us to communicate that unhappy Breach between the Delawares & our Brethren the English. our delay did not proceed from any backwardness on our part, but from the great sense we had of its importance. We hope you have received Satisfaction upon that head by the great Belt we just now delivered with so much solemnity & sincerity

Brother You have acquainted us that the Great King our Father is firmly resolved to defend our Country & recover such parts of it as the French have encroached upon, also to protect us to the utmost of his Power by erecting Forts for our safety & Defence We are gratefull for this Instance of his Goodness but have not yet concluded upon any thing with regard to the latter

Brother You have informed us that the Gov.r of New York has [illegible] present from us from the Great King our Father we are thankful for it, but are afraid it will come so soon upon the back of this Meeting it will be inconvenient for our aged People to come but our Warriors shall come upon that Occasion.

Brother Warraghiyagey

[illegible] [illegible] Council [illegible] and [illegible] place where [illegible] jointly [illegible] [illegible] We assure you we shall keep it up [illegible] Council Fire [illegible] make [illegible] we [illegible] on all Occasions We likewise beg that you on your part will likewise seriously consider your engagements & faithfully perform them.

The General concluded with the following Words:

Brethren I do not think you have been so explicit with regard to what I proposed to you concerning your keeping open & clear the Road to Oswego as I could wish.

They made the following Apology

Brother

141 Brother with respect to the Rebels relative
to [illegible] upon the Road [illegible] we can
[illegible] [illegible] in our moral
[illegible] we wish to support
[illegible] with you
[illegible] upon that affair which now appears
[illegible] punctually conform to your
desire.

Brother [illegible] contribute to your [illegible]
[illegible] respect [illegible]
[illegible] the Senecas [illegible]
[illegible] Mohawk [illegible] against [illegible]
[illegible] present [illegible]
[illegible] delivered them
public
[illegible] which to deliver with
[illegible] to the several [illegible]
[illegible] 1085 [illegible] 8 [illegible]

The Mohawks then the Nations
replied as follows:

Brother [illegible] embarked upon by us
that our Brother Sir [illegible] Mohawks should
take upon him to settle that unhappy affair
between the Delawares and our Brethren the English,
after a serious deliberation, having
this so much at heart we have unanimously
agreed that several Deputies from
the Six Nations should use their utmost endeavours
to accommodate that difference, and depend upon it
we shall lose no time for we will immediately
dispatch a Message to them by the Shaniadaraigh-
roneys & Oneidas & desire them to meet us at
Otseningo

Onondago where the Council is to be held

a Belt

Brother

We have according to your repeated Desire kept a good lookout and Daily watch the Motion of the French. We must acquaint you that they have lately sent a Message to our Brethren the Caiouges to let them know their resolution of attacking Oswego & desire their Opinion upon it. Upon this Three of their Sachems & seven of their young Men are gone to Niagara with a Design to forbid the French attacking Oswego or any Indians they may meet with there, we shall expect their Return when you shall immediately hear what they have done

a Belt.

Brethren of the Six Nations

I greatly approve of the Resolution you have made on the Method of accommodating that unhappy Breach between the Delawares & our Brethren the English, it must certainly have greater Weight now as it is to be the Act of the whole Body and the more likely to succeed. I look upon this as a very considerable Proof of the Unanimity & Zeal that you have expressed at this present Meeting

a Belt

Brethren I must repeat to you that I am extremely pleased & much obliged to you for the kind Intelligence you have given me of the Designs of the French attacking Oswego, and desire you will continue that Vigilance & let me have every Information you can in relation to the Proceedings and Motions of the French, as nothing can contribute more to the defeating all their Designs than our having a constant

and

111 [illegible] which would Brethren of Oswego may succeed in their Intentions of Endeavouring to prevent any Indians they may have an Opportunity of seeing, for we say the [illegible] but alas we can do nothing without their Assistance [illegible] of their Chiefs, however to agree to try what can be done in that case but [illegible] we do not hear what the French can do neither should you after the strong & many assurances we have given you of the Warmth of Protection & Friendship

Speaker Tessighpsagey

We are now ready to return home [illegible] for what we came here are [illegible] to our Satisfaction we hope you will [illegible] with everything [illegible] and the [illegible] in everything [illegible] at this Meeting and hope you will do the same

[illegible] the Congress

Whilst General Johnson was in his way home from New York the Senecas sent an Express with a Belt of Black Wampum, with the following Intelligence which was brought to Genl Johnson by two Oneida Indians & forwarded by the Deputy Secretary to Genl Johnson who met him at Albany the 28 or 29 of Jan when he immediately dispatched Copies of it by Express to General Shirley & Sir Charles Hardy. N.B. they should have been entered pag 101. —

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Brother Warraghiyagey

About 8 Weeks ago came [illegible] to Niagara with a French Officer who said [illegible] where his Children were who [illegible] sent there so that we could not see any of them

The French Officer Speech to the 6 Nations

Children The English have been threatening us [illegible] last Summer about taking Niagara [illegible] of Onondaga Fort, which Divided [illegible] made especially Niagara which is to be [illegible] nothing [illegible] which it [illegible] would [illegible] it down

Children, I have heard the Relation of the English at the drawing of General Braddock's coming to [illegible] I immediately [illegible] of the [illegible] When I first met the [illegible] the Smoak of [illegible] Distress before me [illegible] that I could not see my Children but in searching [illegible] number of them lying Dead in the Road which made my heart [illegible] & I heard my Children [illegible] did he not want his Brother to fight but to look on & see him fight.

Children I now tell you that I am going to attack Oswego from the English [illegible] that [illegible] very numerous [illegible] [illegible] I intend to [illegible] in [illegible] to my Children who are about my [illegible] for I will do [illegible] as I please Children you have never heard me promise any thing but what I always fulfilled, and I desire you Children to keep from that place they call Oswego.

Brother

p. 146 [illegible]

[illegible] the [illegible] Nation now assembled at Onondaga [illegible] know that we see Death before our Eyes & that we send [illegible] that they may [illegible] [illegible] for you may assure [illegible] Faith

Feby. 25 1776

To the private Warriors of the Oneida Nation

[illegible] their Answer to the Speech [illegible]

[illegible] applied to General [illegible] particularly [illegible] with me now in conjunction with [illegible] Resolution [illegible] it would be accomplished as soon as possible & that you will in particular be careful in the [illegible] of those [illegible] in that [illegible] them [illegible] to [illegible] people [illegible]

[illegible]

Brethren I have received Orders to build Forts for the safety & protection of any of our Brethren of the six Nations & with the greatest Pleasure comply with your request & shall immediately employ proper persons for that purpose. I am convinced it must be the fault of those People whom Gen. Schuyler employed that it was not done sooner as he had given Orders for that purpose as long ago as last October.

Then the Tuscarora Chief spoke

Brother Warraghiyagey.

We have some time since set up Stocades for the defence of our Castle & we are now still apprehensive of the French acting against us in a hostile manner, we are in want of some Block houses to make it the more defensible & some Soldiers to Garrison it which we hope will be readily granted us. We always look'd on the English & the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] so reasonably [illegible] Brethn we [illegible] upon our [illegible] [illegible]

Brethren

I shall acquaint his Excy Genl Shirley who I doubt not will readily grant you a sufficient number of Men to Garrison your Fort and as to the Block houses which you desire when I go to Oswego I shall point out a proper Situation for them & then order them to be built.

Feby 25. 1750.

The Warriors of the Canajohare Indians.

Brother Warraghiyagey.

We the Warriors of Canajohare upon our arrival in town when we were come down [illegible] to see you & hear your words at this ~~[illegible]~~ public meeting. As we are young & inexperienced & have never been at any Meeting with a Govr before, we hope you will make a kind allowance for our want of ability in speaking & we beg leave to assure you, that the reason of our never attending the Meetings where was not the want of attention to the English but was entirely owing to our remote situation wh prevented a timely & proper Notice:

Brother Kessaukequaay

As Goods are extremely dear & ordinary in our parts upon our determination to come to this Meeting we thought proper to bring some Skins & Furs with us in order to purchase some necessaries for our wives & families, and we hope you will [illegible] further direct us where we may be supplied with the best & upon the most reasonable Terms.

Brother

We beg leave to assure you nothing [illegible] more Satisfaction than the Speech we heard you deliver the Six Nations on our arrival; it contained nothing but what was quite right & has a direct tendency to our Welfare. We think our time well spent in coming down, for if we had not probably we should not have heard what you have said for we are convinced from what we have now heard say that our Tendency [illegible] have [illegible] liked the greatest part of your [illegible] Speech, and we assure you we shall now spread your advice among all our People who are considerably [illegible] of their.

Brother Wessaukyique

As we are strangers we are not acquainted with the Ceremonials of Public Meetings, therefore express what we have to say in a narrow Compass. We have no more at present. We hope you will excuse the trouble we have given you on this Occasion

Brethren

I have given Attention to your words and shall seriously consider your Desire [illegible] and give you an answer untill to morrow [illegible] naturally expect every thing I say [illegible] my word [illegible] [illegible] attention

Brethren [illegible]

I return you thanks for your kind [illegible] & considering our Desire to answer you [illegible] [illegible] of more importance [illegible] with patience wait your Desire

[illegible] 26

Brethren

I Assure you it is with pleasure I have paid due Attention to what you have said and in order to answer your request [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] pleasure to hear that my [illegible] as [illegible] to you and that you [illegible] attention [illegible] the Covenant [illegible] and [illegible] what will make you a happy people if duly attended to which [illegible] [illegible] have no [illegible] [illegible] you have not been duly [illegible] Meetings [illegible] to my [illegible] I promise that in the future you shall have [illegible] will be always ready to assist you both in the Council & the Field with all the chief [illegible] of that Castle who shall be [illegible] Brethren

Brethren In the next place as I have no [illegible] to me my self I will take all possible Care that you are not imposed on in your Trade at Schenectady I shall give directions

to

& Mr. Stevens the Interpreter to assist you [illegible] that [illegible] be done [illegible] [illegible] to Share [illegible] to your Castle [illegible] with this [illegible] at the [illegible] [illegible] Gov. [illegible] [illegible] Warren [illegible] [illegible] & evidently shewed the Chief.

[illegible] Warraghiyagey

Brethren [illegible] thanks [illegible] [illegible] that you may [illegible] Success & [illegible] upon [illegible] very well that whatever War [illegible] ordered.

[illegible] thanks [illegible] were Professions [illegible] parted.

At a Meeting of the Oneidaes
Feby apr 27. 1756

Brother Warraghiyagey

[illegible] with pleasure embrace the Opportunity offered us of having a Fort built for the protection of our Castle and upon our Return home we have chosen a proper Situation for it. As soon as the Season of the year will permit we beg you will not delay to send proper Workmen to build it. As we have for some time past had an Acquaintance with Lieut. Mills we should be glad to have him as our Officer & as Wm Printup understands the Indian Language well it would be agreeable to us to have him reside with us as a Smith and at the same time to serve as an Interpreter between the

Officer &c as

Brethren I shall acquaint General Shirley with your Desires & make no doubt he will comply with it. The Fort shall be built with all possible Expedition & whatever Officer is posted in it will no doubt have particular Orders to be careful of your safety & to treat you with all the marks of Affection & Friendship

so ended

Febʳ 27. 1756.

At a Meeting of the Sen. at Onondaga

Speaker

Brother Warraghiyagey

Our Brother the Govʳ of New York was so good last year as to promise us a Smith to mend our Arms & Tools & that he should reside amongst us till the Corn was a foot high but he labouring under the misfortune of a sore Leg was obliged to leave us some time sooner. We acknowledge you sent us a Smith last Summer with whom we are well pleased & desire you will continue him with us till the Corn is a foot high then he may come down for the necessarys he may have occasion & then we hope he will soon return to us again.

Brethren

I was present when the Govʳ of New York promised last year to send you a Smith wᶜʰ he accordingly did, & one agreeable to you if he did not stay the time appointed, the Govʳ was not culpable as he could not be supposed to know any thing of his coming away. I am very glad you are pleased

with

152 [illegible] with the Smith [illegible] last year and are now desirous he should remain there until your Iron is [illegible] very readily [illegible] to it [illegible] accordingly to stay that time

[illegible]

Nov. 2d 1756

At a private Meeting of the Sachems & Warriors of the Onoghquagey [illegible] Abraham (the great Mohawk)

Brother Speaker

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] with these [illegible] request [illegible] your [illegible] formed [illegible] the [illegible] agreeable [illegible] and that it would be more acceptable to have those with whom we are acquainted than Strangers.

[illegible] promising that he would [illegible] take care of our Lands [illegible] (ving them in the [illegible]) [illegible] either deficient in the [illegible] or we might we entirely lost our [illegible] in this Settlement [illegible] [illegible] we make our application [illegible] a [illegible] that [illegible] your assistance in this Article we must [illegible] suffer

Brethren [illegible]

[illegible] the [illegible] Castle look on ourselves [illegible] obligation [illegible] ready at a call upon any Emergency and as we must therefore at present Hold [illegible] many [illegible] to retrieve our Loss we look to you for Support Our Arms having also suffered much in our Service beg your assistance in repairing them

Brother as you informed us that you were ready for [illegible] we gave you assist [illegible] for you in our Address to [illegible] and we have also at your Request stopped all our [illegible] young people from making any Incursions against the [illegible] Turned our Weapons against the common Enemy agreeable to your Desire in short we hope we have upon all occasions given you reason to think that we have a sincere regard for you.

Brother

Our [illegible] are now pretty much sunk [illegible] Our principal Sachems [illegible] Hill at Lake George we look to you to raise them up agreeable to our Custom.

Brother At the request of the upper Nations without our Consent the selling of Strong Liquors is entirely forbid. we have no Design to contradict any thing they do. but only request we may have leave to procure a little for our [illegible] Comfort   A String of Wampum

Brethren
[illegible] your [illegible] with
[illegible] that the Crown [illegible] take [illegible] care of your
[illegible] the
[illegible] shall
[illegible]
[illegible] of your [illegible]
[illegible] at all times [illegible] you
shall not want [illegible] in my power
to supply [illegible] to your
Happiness [illegible] your [illegible] shall never
[illegible] for your
support and [illegible] fail [illegible] time
[illegible] have [illegible] supply
[illegible]
shall [illegible] that [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] the [illegible]
[illegible] with [illegible].
A String of Wampum
[illegible]

Brethren, I have nothing more at
heart than the [illegible] of the
People of your [illegible] have [illegible] been
our steady friends. I am [illegible] affected &
sincerely sympathize with you on the great
loss you [illegible] your
principal [illegible] of your
[illegible]
[illegible] that those Friends
of ours who dropped that day [illegible] bravely in
their Country's Cause, and that their Memory
will

well in Remembrance to the end of time. It is very necessary to supply as well and as soon as we can the place of the two great Sachems lost that day. I hope you have considered of proper Persons for that important Trust. If you have I should be glad you would produce them, that I may give them the proper marks of Distinction & enter their Names among the rest of the Sachems.

Brother Warraghiyagey

We the Sachems & Warriors return you our hearty thanks for your kind & well timed supply of Corn & Provisions & other Supply of necessarys. The repairing of our Arms will likewise be of the greatest Service to us as without them we can raise no Grain for the ensuing year. This care of us in our Distress adds greatly to the many Obligations we already lye under & can never be forgot.

Brother We the Warriors of Conajoharie are extremely pleased with the favorable Opinion [illegible] have of our Behaviour in the late Action [illegible] Lake George & which we [illegible] much [illegible] notwithstanding [illegible] our [illegible] We are extremely obliged to you for the present you intend us & shall receive it with the greatest Gratitude.

Brother We like your Anxiety for supplying the Place of the two great Sachems lost [illegible] as a singular [illegible] managed our Affairs as a singular mark of your regard for our Welfare; we [illegible] of your most capable Men to succeed our Deceased. Brother Tarachiorus of the Tribe of the Turtle & hope our Choice may meet your Approbation. We have not as yet fixed upon one to succeed the Great Hendrick

when we do we shall immediately acquaint you
&c. [illegible]

Brethren

As a proof of my regard & friendship [illegible] in the presence of your whole Castle invest him with all the powers of a Sachem [illegible] upon him there is a pair of [illegible] of distinction which I hope he will long live to wear.

[illegible]

Novr. 28. 1756. —

The Onoghquage Indians before they parted made the following speech.

[illegible]

Brother [illegible] we are now ready to return home & are obliged to you for all your kindness to us, which we assure you has made so deep an impression on our minds as is not to be forgot. We would only beg leave to desire one favour of you before we go, that is to have a Fort [illegible] built in our Country [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

Brethren of [illegible]

[illegible] that the [illegible] between the [illegible] not [illegible] [illegible] that unhappy affair is settled between the Indians & the Lower [illegible] between the [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] March

[illegible] from [illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible] Bishop

[illegible]

[illegible] that time [illegible] many years [illegible]

[illegible] our Brother [illegible] Smith & Interpreter [illegible] present [illegible] of [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] I pay [illegible] well knowing [illegible] will [illegible] Wherefore as you desire a good strong & durable Fort [illegible] power to gratify you therein [illegible] I shall in sending Will. [illegible] to serve you as Smith & Interpreter. I will write a letter by you to the Germans who live nearest to you [illegible] 1.

[illegible]
[illegible] hope that will be the mean[illegible]
[illegible] you [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible] that [illegible]
[illegible] with [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible] with the [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

March [illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible] the greatest
[illegible]

[illegible]

I hope you will as soon as the
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] such [illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

159.

Brethren of the Senecas

You may depend upon my sending men to build a Fort for your protection as soon as possible. I must desire that you Brethren who live nearest to the Twightwees & the Ottawawas will send Kindarunte of Ganughsagony great friend to invite them & many other Nations as you live to speak with us to the Meeting which is to be held at Onondaga that you soon as the Invitation & it will have more weight & should we succeed in our Designs it would be for our Mutual Interest

a Belt)

Brother Warraghiyagey

We return you thanks for the Assurance you give us of sending up Workmen to build a Fort for our protection

In answer to your Request we will as soon as we get Home send the Message you mention with your Invitation & send as many of them as possible & we will also send to them in our own Name & doubt not but they will come unless some unforeseen turn of affairs should happen a Belt

I returned them thanks for their Compli:ance to my request, gave them money to bear their Expences on the Road as he has led

March 8. Fitted out a Party of 5 Indians to harrass the Settlements about Crown point. a Schenundady Indian Chief.

Do. the 7. Fitted out 3 more Capt. Dick the Chief whom I ordered to go towards St. Johns below Lake Champlain.

Do. the 10. Fitted out another Party of 5 Mohawks &

and 3 white Men in [illegible] they [illegible]. They [illegible] the Indians [illegible] to go [illegible] in case [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

March 16. 1757

[illegible]

[illegible] were ready to march instantly to their [illegible] Brethren as to that if any of our Brothers [illegible] thought it necessary [illegible] their [illegible] and that because they had not [illegible] the Enemy [illegible] were returned without seeing the Enemy that they [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] let me know that [illegible] were extremely obliged to me for this convincing Proof of my regard for them & that they never would forget it. General Johnson then sent them the following [illegible] Message [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] with [illegible]
[illegible] the Treaty
[illegible] and
[illegible] send them [illegible] to
[illegible] immediately
[illegible]
[illegible] to
[illegible] at the
[illegible] hundred of the
[illegible] what [illegible]
[illegible] at a time
[illegible]
[illegible] as many as
[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] communicate to
[illegible] received from
[illegible] other Gentlemen of
[illegible] dated March 20.
[illegible] English had entered a
[illegible] 14 River Indians then
[illegible] that upon being
[illegible] in the Murder
[illegible] would
[illegible] in refusing
[illegible] their
escape Further that those Gentlemen acquainted
[illegible] that there were about [illegible] the same
nation of Indians [illegible] there
for protection were supported by the people of
that Town, that they would be glad to know
what to do with them & desired their advice
& opinion thereon [illegible] they
would

[illegible] [illegible] compelled [illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible] to [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

Upon [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
Mischief Done [illegible]
[illegible] to tell [illegible]
[illegible]
will [illegible] their [illegible]
the [illegible]
[illegible] spare time to [illegible]
[illegible] I will pay you for
the same Eight [illegible] a day but you
must keep an [illegible] the [illegible]
[illegible] you
[illegible] to it.

[illegible] also [illegible] employ some [illegible]
[illegible] to [illegible]
[illegible] what the French [illegible]
[illegible] for which you are to pay
[illegible] I will make you an allowance for
the same. [illegible] you [illegible] Intelligence
of any person you find the French [illegible]
against [illegible]

against them [illegible] to the Commanding
officer there [illegible] and to endeavour to
prevent [illegible] Quarrels [illegible]
[illegible] it will
be to them [illegible] may for the good of the Service
[illegible] to [illegible] any other as
[illegible]
Given under my hand
at Fort Johnson this 23
day of March 1756
Wm Johnson

To Mr Gilbert [illegible]

Instructions for Mr [illegible]
in the Seneca Country

As the Senecas have requested of me that you would stay there till their Fort is a foot high in order to keep their [illegible] & utensils in repair. You are therefore hereby directed to remain [illegible] until the latter end of May or beginning of June & do all the work for them they want. You will send me by the first opportunity any [illegible] you may hear there, and also to the Commanding Officer at Oswego if it is necessary he should know it or that it concerns the [illegible] of that Garrison in any way.

If the Senecas have not sent the Indians whom I desired to visit the Twightwees & others [illegible] by you. in that case you are to tell them it is my desire that they send either him or any other proper person immediately as delay in that case will be attended with many ill consequences & be a great disappointment & the blame may be lye

[illegible]

[illegible] great

Nation [illegible] those

[illegible]

[illegible] ready

[illegible] called upon

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] greatly [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] what [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] shall be

[illegible]

the [illegible]) [illegible]

to join His Majesty [illegible]

upon

[illegible] Days

[illegible]

Mr. [illegible] Hem[illegible]

in the [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] the [illegible]

[illegible] had happened to [illegible] your

[illegible] at [illegible] you

in [illegible] a Number

of them being now amongst the Inhabitants of

Kingston; We have according to your Desire taken

this Affair into our serious Consideration and

come

ment the Resolution which if you approve of we are determined immediately to put in Execution viz. to relieving those Indians living left about that part of the Country to settle amongst us at the Mohawks & we hope you will assist in bringing them up all in your Power whereby to support & cloath them until they are able to raise their own Provision. We are unacquainted with their Language & strangers in that part of the Country we should be glad you would send some proper person with us as Interpreter then we will begin the Journey as soon as we can [illegible]

A Belt

Brethren of the Mohawks

We heartily approve the Resolution you have entered into relating the River Indians & shall assist you in bringing them up in Provisions, until they are able to provide for themselves & shall take care to supply them with the necessaries of Life, & shall order Jacobus Clement the Interpreter who understands their Language to attend you upon this Expedition on that head

A Belt

Instructions to Mr Jacobus Clement

You are to provide a Passage & Provisions for those Mohawk Chiefs & accompany them to Kingston in Ulster County when there you are to see that they be well supplied with Provisions & but very little liquor, lest they get intoxicated & by that means worst

the and Ends [illegible] in this [illegible] to
[illegible] Intrigues between them & the River
Indians so to put them all in your power should
they be able to [illegible] at the [illegible] and [illegible]
to come along with them in that case you
are to send [illegible] immediately. Copying you
find necessary to support them along the Road
either using your own Discretion you
are to keep a regular account of the Expences
which may be [illegible] when delivered.

Given under my hand
at Fort Johnson the
8 Day of April 1758
Wm Johnson

The foregoing Proceedings of
Sir William Johnson Bart to wit from
page 99th to this place having passed along
Minuted which I was at the [illegible] have
Recorded from the Original Minutes taken
by Mr Robert Adems [illegible] and some
of them in Sir Wm own handwriting at
Fort Johnson the 20 Day of April 1758.

[illegible] Wraxall
Secretary for Indian
Affairs

Fort

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FROM THE ORIGINAL IN
THE QUAKER COLLECTION
HAVERFORD COLLEGE, HAVERFORD, PA.

Central Offices of the Society of Friends.

TELEGRAMS: "OVERSIGHT, LONDON."

ISAAC SHARP,
SECRETARY.

DEVONSHIRE HOUSE,
12, BISHOPSGATE WITHOUT,
LONDON, E.C.

LIBRARY DEPARTMENT,
NORMAN PENNEY,
LIBRARIAN.

14. V. 1906.

Albert K. Smiley
Lake Mohonk
N. Y.

Dear Friend,

Enclosed piece of MS. has recently turned up here, but I do not think it is of value to us, possibly it may be interesting to some Friend of the Indian and I send it to thee, and place it at thy disposal for whatever purpose thou mayst incline to put it.

I am

Thine sincerely,

Norman Penney

Thank him on
Ind Conf paper.

Fort Johnson. April 21st. 1756.

A Deputation from the Onondago's of Sachems & 15 warriors
Tiogwanta speaker. Peter Wraxall secry. Aaron Stevans Interpreter.

Brother Warraghiyagey. We are very sorry for your late loſs at the carrying place, and as we doubt not you are oppreſsd with grief on the occasion, we do with this belt of wampum wipe away the Tears from your eyes, and clear your throats that you may speak to us with ease & freedom, and we clear away the blood which hath been spilt that we may confer together with our usual confidence & satisfaction.

Gave a Large Belt of black wampum.

FROM THE ORIGINAL IN
THE QUAKER COLLECTION
HAVERFORD COLLEGE, HAVERFORD, PA.

Brother

at our late publick meeting, you put the five nations in mind that the Delaware & Shawanese Indians were under their government and direction, and you enjoined us to send to them to expreſs our disap:probation & resentment for the bloody hostilities which they had & were daily committing against our brethren the English in these parts, and that we should order them to cease from these vio:lences & live in that friendship & harmony with our brethren the English, as they were wont to do, and that they should turn the Edge of their hatchets along with you and us against our common enemies the French & their Indians — We have been to them and delivered what you gave us in charge, and we have succeeded, by convincing them that they had acted very foolishly, and they have promised & agreed to join their arms with us, in conjunction with you, against our common enemies, but at the same time they earnestly desire, that they may see & talk with you at Onondago, the fireplace of the five nations, and that if you will meet them there it will convince them of your desire to live in harmony & friendship and that you intend to behave to them as friends & allies. And the five nations join with them in this request, as they propose to have a very great meeting there, & as the present times are so troublesome, & the general welfare so precarious, we desire you will fix upon as early a day as poſsible to meet us at Onondago. as this meeting will be of great importance to the common cause we must preſs upon you to be present at it, and that with as little delay as poſsible, & that you will bring your neighbours the Mohawks of both Castles along with you

We would willingly now take you by the hand along with us but if that cannot be done, we must beg you will tell us what day you will be at Onondago, that we may summon the six nations, the Delawares & Shawanese & our several allies to come punctually at the time you shall fix upon. — Deliver'd a Belt of Invitation.

Brother with half of this Belt (holding one up) we put you in mind that you have often told us that we are as one people & one family we must now inform you that as this meeting at Onondago will be a very considerable one, and at which will be present a great number of Indians of several nations. we are by reason of the present situation of affairs, which requires our young men to be constantly in arms attending the Operations of our brethren the English very short of provisions, & by no means able to provide for such numbers as will come to this meeting, we therefore hope you will bring along with you some provisions to assist us to support the many Indians who will assemble at Onondago on the occasion.

Brother, with the other half of this belt, we acquaint you that as you desired the six nations in general, and we Onondagas in particular, would have our Eye fixed upon Oswego our trading place and keep out Scouts in order to discover & make known the motions & designs of the enemy. This we have constantly done, & no sooner one Scouting party comes in, but we send out another, & upon gaining any intelligence immediately communicate it to the commanding officer at Oswego, and this we shall continue to do with our utmost Zeal and abilities, for Brother we are determined to live and die with our brethren the English — Now Brother you know that arms & ammunition are not only the means of our livelyhood & that by constant use they must be wearing out & expended but more especially at this time when they are constantly in our hands, not only for our own maintenance, but to assist our brethren the English, We must therefore desire Brother that you will bring along with you to this meeting at Onondago a good supply of arms, powder and Ball as things absolutely needful at this conjuncture — Dont think Brother that we are so earnest upon the Point with the view of private advantage, for we propose to use our arms & ammunition in conjunction with our brethren the English against their Enemies.

Then gave a whole Belt.

Sir William Johnson's answer to the foregoing Speech.

Brethren of Onondago's. The Condolance of your nation on our late misfortune at the carrying place is friendly & acceptable, These things are the natural consequences of war, and will animate both you & us with a laudable spirit of resentment — Brethren. I am very glad to find that your remonstrances to the Delawares & Shawanese Indians have the desired effects, & that they not only repent of their cruel & unjust behaviour towards their brethren the English but now perceive what is their true interest & duty & are disposed to Join with us & you against the common enemy — Agreeable to their request & your urgent desire. I propose to come up to the intended meeting at onondago & to be there in 20 days from this day. There are several reasons which prevent my being able to go with you now or to attend sooner, one of which is that I have been lately called three times to German flatts & Oneida carrying place, by which means I have a great deal of busineſs upon my hands which must be attended to, before I leave home again — I shall give timely notice to the Mohawks of both Castles to be ready to go when I call upon them.

Brethren I am sensible that at this time more especially, you will not be able to find provisions for such a number of Indians as will probably be at this meeting, and I shall therefore agreeable to your request take care to aſsist with a supply of provisions —

Brethren it gives me great pleasure to hear that you manifest that attention to your true interest & my Exhortations as to be fully watchful over the safety of your trading place at Oswego. by keeping out constant scouting parties round it, I hope you will by this & every other method continue to let your & our enemies the french & their Indians see that you look upon the preservation of Oswego not only as a security to your own Castles, but as a place which your honour & your interest calls on you to protect from their encroaching attempts, and that you will to the utmost of your power keep the road to it free and open.

Brethren, I well know how neceſsary arms & ammunition are to you at all times & more particularly so at this, & I shall do every thing in my power to obtain & bring with me as much and as good of the kind as possibly I can, but as several Armaments are now making thro'out this continent, these important Articles are thereby rendred scarce & difficult to be obtained, and that I may have time to get the best and as large a quantity as I can purchase, is another reason why I cannot meet you sooner at Onondago -- Gave a Belt.

To this the speaker replied.

Brother Warraghiyagey

You have given us a very satisfactory answer to the several particulars we had in charge from our Castle and we are extremely obliged to you for it, & we shall punctually make our report on our return - The friendship between our brethren the English and us hath been of an antient Date & a long continuance, and we cannot more effectually distress our enemies than by stedfastly uniting ourselves together against them.

Sir William Johnson then told them, that he had promised their nation at the late meeting, that when the weather would permit he would send people up to build them a fort, which he now intended speedily to do. & desired their people would agree upon a proper place to build it, and hoped when the workmen came up, they would use them well, and avoid any quarrells or disagreements, and that he would give a charge to the workmen to behave well on their side.

Then the Conferrence broke up -

The account, from which the foregoing is Copied, is Certified to be a true Extract from the Original minutes by Peter Wraxal Secretary for Indian affairs.

Fort Johnson 1 July 1756

A Deputation from the Indians of Susquehanna
& Shamokin

(Sir William Johnson Bart
Agent Indians Affrs

Juquante Speaker

Brother Warraghiyagey

We are sensible for our late Loss of those among you which we doubt not you are oppressed with Grief on this Occasion we do with this Belt of Wampum wipe away the Tears from your Eyes, clear your Throat that you may speak to us with Ease & freedom and we clean away the Blood which hath been spilt so that we may enter to deliver with our usual Confidence & satisfaction. gave a large Belt of black Wampum

Brother

At our late Public Meeting you told the 6 Nations in [illegible] and that the Delaware & Shawanese Indians were under their Govt & direction and you enjoined us to send to them to express our Disapprobation & Resentment for the barbarous Hostilities which they had been guilty of committing against our Brethren the English in these parts, and that we should order them to cease from these Hostilities & live in that Friendship & Harmony with our Brethren the English as they were wont to do, and that they should turn the Edge of their Hatchets along with you & us against our common Enemies the French & their Indians. We have been to them & delivered what you gave us in charge and we have succeeded in convincing them that they had

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[illegible] very Zealously complying [illegible] & they
have promised & engaged to join their Arms with
[illegible] in action with you against our common
Enemies but at the same time they earnestly
desire that they may see & talk with you at
Onondaga the fire place of the 6 Nations &
that if you will meet them there it will
convince them of your desire to live with them
in Harmony & Friendship, and that you intend
to behave to them as Friends & Allies & the
Nations join with them in this Request as
they propose to have a very great Meeting there
and as the present times are so threatning
& the general Welfare so precarious, we desire
you will fix upon as early a day as possible to
meet us at Onondaga. As this meeting will
be of great consequence to the common Cause
we must press upon you to be present at it &
that with as little delay as possible, and
that you will bring your Mohawk brethren the
Mohawks of both Castles along with you.

We would likewise take you by the
hand now along with us out of this [illegible]
[illegible] done we must beg you will tell us what
day you will be at Onondaga that we may
summon the 6 Nations, the Delawares, & Shawa-
-nese & our several Allies to come punctu-
-ally at the time you shall fix upon

Delivd. a Belt of Invitation

[illegible]

With this Belt [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] that at the Meeting at Onondaga
will be very considerable and [illegible] it will
be

he sent a great Number of Indians & several others at the same season to be present & then again [illegible] to keep their engagements [illegible] them to be constantly in [illegible] attending the Operations of our Brethren the English [illegible] of Provisions [illegible] unable to provide for such Numbers [illegible] will come to this Meeting We therefore hope & desire you will bring along with you some Provisions [illegible] to support the several Indians who will assemble at Onondaga on this Occasion

A Belt With the other half of the Belt we are pleased [illegible] that [illegible] the Station [illegible] would [illegible] constantly [illegible] Oswego our Trading place [illegible] in order to [illegible] this we have constantly Done [illegible] but [illegible] gaining any [illegible] communicate [illegible] at Oswego, and this we shall continue to do with our utmost Abilities, for Brother we are determined to live & die with our Brethren the English

Our Brother you know that [illegible] Ammu-nition [illegible] & that [illegible] they must [illegible] at this time when they are constantly in our [illegible] only for our own Maintenance but to [illegible] our Brethren the English we must therefore desire Brother that you will bring along with you to this Meeting at Onondaga a good Supply of Arms, Powder and Ball &

Strings

1c 1'C

thing absolutely needful at this conjuncture. Brother we are determined upon this point with a view to private advantage for we propose to use our ammunition in connection with our Brethren the English against their sworn Enemies.

Then gave the whole Belt

[illegible] of M

Sir William Johnson's Answer to the foregoing Speech

Fort Johnson [illegible]

[illegible]

Brethren of Onondaga

The contents of your Belt came [illegible] at the [illegible] place [illegible] acceptable. The things are the natural consequence of the [illegible] they will animate between you with a [illegible] spirit of friendship.

Brethren, I am very glad to find that your Remonstrance to the Delawares & Shawanese Indians have had the desired effect & that they are not only repentant of their past violent behaviour towards their Brethren the English but now perceive [illegible] of their true Interest & Duty and propose to join with you & us against the common Enemy. I agree to their request & to your invitation & propose to come up to the intended Meeting at Onondaga & to be there in [illegible] days from this day. There are several reasons which prevent me being able to go with you now or to attend sooner, one of which is, that I have been lately called three times to the

German

Germans Flatts & Oneida Carrying place by which means I have a great deal of Business upon my hands which might be Attended to before I can leave home again. I shall give timely notice to the Mohawks of both Castles to be ready to go when I call upon them

promised to deliver their Invitation
Belt at Onondaga

Brethren, I am sensible that at this time more especially you will not be able to find Provisions for such a number of People as will probably be at this Meeting, we shall therefore agreeable to your Request take care to assist with a supply of Provisions.

Brethren, It gives me great pleasure to hear that you maintain that Union to your free without any Interruption, as to be daily watchful over the safety of your Country place at Oswego in keeping out constant scouting parties round it; I hope you will in this by every other Method continue to let your Enemies the French & their Indians see that you look upon the preservation of Oswego not only as a Security to your own Castles but as a place which your honour & your Interest calls on you to protect from their encroaching Attempts, and that you will to the utmost of your power keep the road to it free & open.

Brethren I well know how necessary Arms & Ammunition are to you at all times & particularly at this, and I shall do every

thing

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[illegible] in my power to [illegible] it was with me much con[illegible] of this kind as Sensibly [illegible] [illegible] amongst us now raging throughout the [illegible] at these [illegible] places [illegible] are thereby rendered scarce sufficient to [illegible] and that they have been to [illegible] and as large [illegible] Kindly [illegible] [illegible] purchase [illegible] another [illegible] [illegible] at [illegible] Meetings at Onondaga

[illegible]

To the foregoing their Speaker replyed

Brother Warraghiyagey

You have given us very satisfactory answers to the several particulars which we [illegible] mentioned to you [illegible] we accordingly [illegible] agree to your [illegible] and shall punctually make [illegible] report to [illegible] Nations

We [illegible] advise our Brethren the English [illegible] [illegible] being Confirmed we cannot more effectually disappoint our Enemies than by steadfastly uniting [illegible] together against them.

Sr William then told them that as he had promised their Nation at the late Meeting, that so soon the Weather would permit, he would send people up to build them a Fort, which he now intended speedily to do, & desired their people would agree upon a proper place to build it & hoped when the Workmen came up, they would use them well & avoid any quarrells or Disagreements, & that he would give a Charge to the Workmen to behave well on their side. Upon this the Conference broke up.

Fort Johnson 21. April

A Deputation from the Onondagas of
Two Sachems and 15 Warriors
Peter Wraxall Secry.
Arent Stephens Interpr.
Tiogwanta Speaker

Brother Warraghiyagey.

We are very sorry for your late loss at the Carryi and as we doubt not you are oppressed with Grief on this Occa we do with this Belt of Wampum wipe away the Tears from Eyes, and clear your throat that you may speak to us wit and freedom, and we clean away the Blood which has been spilt that we may confer together with our usual Confiden and Satisfaction. Gave a large Belt of Wamp

Brother

At our late publick Meeting you put the five Nations Mind that the Delawares and Shawonese Indians were und Government and Directions and you enjoined us to send to express our disapprobation and Resentment for the Bloody which they had and were daily committing against our Breth the English in these parts, and that we should order them to cease these Violencies and live in that Friendship and Harmony wi Brethren the English as they were wont to do, and that they turn the Edge of their Hatchets along with you and us again common Enemies the French and their Indians.

We have been to them and delivered what you gave us Charge, and we have succeded by convincing them that they acted very foolishly and unjustifiably, and they have prom agreed to join their Arms with us in conjunction with you our Common Enemies, but at the same time they earnestly de may see and talk with you at Onandaga the Fire place of Nations and that if you will meet them there it will them of your desire to live with them in Harmony and ps, and that you intend to behave to them as Friends and the five Nations join with them in this request as they have a very great meeting there and as the present times ublesome, and the general Welfare so precarious, we desire upon as early a day a Day as possible to meet us, Onandaga Meeting will be of great importance to the common cause we upon you to be present at it, and that with as little possible, and that you will bring your Neighbours the of both Castles along with you, We would willingly you by the Hand with us, but if this cannot be done, we you will tell us what day you will be at Onandaga, that summons the Six Nations the Delawares & Shawonese eral Allies to come punctually at the time you shall

delivered a Belt of Invitation)

Sir William Johnson's Answer.

en.

I'm very glad to find that your Remonstrances to wares and Shawonese Indians have had the desired Effects; they not only repent of their cruel and unjust behaviour their Brethren the English, but now perceive what is their erest and Duty and are disposed to join with you and us, the common Enemy. agreable to their request and your desire I propose to come up to the intended Meeting at ga and to be there in twenty days from this day. There al reasons which prevent my being ~~sooner~~ able to go now or to attend sooner, one of which is that I have been called three times to the German Flatts and Oneida place by which means I have a great deal of Business

upon

EMMET COLL.
MS DIV. NYPL EM 8 5

upon my Hands which must be attended to before I can
home again.

I shall give timely Notice to the Mohocks of both
to be ready to go when I call upon them.

A true Copy examined by me
Benjⁿ. Barons
Secretary

EMMET COLL.
MS DIV. NYPL
[illegible]

Fort Johnson . April 21st 1756

A Deputation of Sachems & 15 Warriors from the Unondago's
Tiogwanta Speaker, Peter Wraxall Secy. Aaron Stevans Interpreter.

Brother Warriaghiyagey,

We are very sorry for your late loſs at the carrying Place, and as we doubt not you are oppreſs'd with Grief on the Occasion, we do with this Belt of Wampum wipe away the Tears from your Eyes, and clear your Throats that you may speak to us with ease & freedom, and we clear away the Blood which hath been spilt, that we may confer together with our usual confidence and Satisfaction.

Gave a large belt of black Wampum

Brother

At our late publick Meeting you put the five Nations in Mind, that the Delaware & Shawanese Indians were under their Government and direction, and you enjoined us to send to them to expreſs our Disapprobation and resentment for the bloody Hostilities which they had and were daily committing against our Brethren the English in these parts, and that we should order them to cease from these Violences, & live in that Friendship & harmony with our Brethren the English as they were wont to do, & that they should turn the Edge of their Hatchets along with you and us against our common Enemies the French and their Indians — We have been to them, and delivered what you gave us in charge, and we have succeeded by convincing them that they had acted very foolishly, and they have promised and agreed to join their Arms with us in conjunction with you against our common Enemies, but at the same time they earnestly desire that they may see and talk with you at Onondago the Fireplace of the five Nations, & that if you will meet them there, It will convince them of your deſire to live in Harmony and Friendship & that you intend to behave to them as Friends & Allies, And the five Nations join with them in their request, as they propose to have a very great Meeting there, & as the present times are so troublesom, & the general Welfare so precarious, we desire you will fix upon as early a day as poſsible to meet us at Onondago — As this Meeting will be of great Importance to the common Cause we must preſs upon you to be present at it, and that with as little delay as poſsible and that you will bring your Neighbours the Mohaw: of both Castles along with you, we would willingly now take you by the hand along with us and if that cannot be done we must beg you will tell us what day you will be at Onondago, that we may Summon the Si:

Six Nations, the Delawares and Shawaneſe and our ſeveral Allies to come punctually at the time you shall fix upon.

Delivered a Belt of Invitation

Brother; with half of this Belt, (holding one up) we put you in Mind that you have often told us that we are as one People and one family, we must now inform you that as this Meeting at Onondago will be a very considerable One, and at which will be present a great Number of Indians of several Nations, We are by reason of the present Situation of Affairs which requires our young men to be constantly in Arms, attending the Operations of our Brethren the English; very Short of Provisions, and by no means able to provide for Such Numbers as will come to this Meeting, We therefore hope you will bring along with you some Provisions to aſsist us to support the many Indians who will Aſsemble at Onondago on the Occasion — Brother with the other half of this Belt we acquaint You, that as you desired the six Nations in general and we Onondagos in particular would have our Eye fixed upon Oswego our Trading place and keep out Scouts in Order to discover and make known the motions of the Enemy, This we have constantly done and no sooner one Scouting Party comes in, but we send out another, and upon gaining Intelligence immediately communicate to the commanding officer at Oswego, and this we shall continue to do with our utmost Zeal and Abilities, for Brother we are determined to live and dye with our Brethren the English — Now Brother you know that Arms and Ammunition are not only the means of our livelyhood and that by constant use they must be wearing out and expended, But more especially at this time, when they are constantly in our hands, not only for our own maintenance, but to aſsist our Brethren the English, We must therefore desire brother ~~that~~ you will bring along with you to this Meeting at Onondago, a good supply of Arms Powder and Ball, as things Absolutely needfull at this Conjuncture. Dont think Brother, that we are so earnest upon the Point, with the view of private Advantages, for we propose to use our Arms and Ammunition in Conjunction with our Brethren the English against their Enemies. Then gave a whole Belt.

Sir William Johnson's Answer to the foregoing Speech

Brethren of Onondago's, The Condolance of your Nation on our late misfortune at the Carrying Place is friendly & acceptable; These things are the Natural Consequences of Warr, and will animate both you and us with a laudable Spirit of resentment.

Brethren, I am very glad to find that your Remonstrances to the Delawares & Shawaneſe Indians have their desired Effects and that they not only repent of their cruel and unjust behaviour towards their Brethren the

English but now perceive what is their true Interest and duty, and are disposed to join with us and you against the common Enemy, Agreeable to their request and your urgent desire I propose to come up to the intended Meeting at Onondago, & to be there in 20 days from this day. There are several Reasons which prevent my being able to go with you now, or to attend sooner, one of which is, that I have been lately called three times to German Flatts & Oneida carrying place, by which means I have a great deal of Busineſs upon my hands which must be attended to before I leave home again — I shall give timely Notice to the Mohawks of both Castles to be ready to go when I call upon them. Brethren I am sensible that at this time more especially you will not be able to find provisions for such a Number of Indians as will probably be at this Meeting, and I shall therefore agreeable to your request take care to aſsist, with a Supply of Proviſions.

Brethren, It gives me great pleasure to hear that you manifest, that attention to your true Interest and my Exhortations as to be duly watchful over the ſafety of your trading place at Oswego by keeping out constant ſcouting parties round it. I hope you will by this and by every other Method continue to let your and our Enemies the French and their Indians see that you look upon the preservation of Oswego, not only a Security to your own Castles, but as a place which your Honour and your Interest, calls on you to protect, from their encroaching attempts, & that you will to the utmost, of your Power keep the Road to it free and open — Brethren I well know how neceſsary Arms and Ammunition are to you at all times and more particularly so at this, and I shall do every thing in my power to obtain and bring with me as much and as good of the kind as I poſsibly can but as ſeveral Armaments are now making throughout this Continent, these important Articles are thereby rendred scarce and difficult to be obtain'd And that I may have time to get the best & as large a quantity as I can purchase is another reason why I cannot meet you sooner at Onondago.

Gave a Belt.

(To this the Speaker replied.

Brother Warriaghiyagey, you have given us a very satisfactory Answer to the ſeveral particulars we had in charge from our Castle, and we are extremely obliged to you for it, and we shall punctually make our Report on our Return — The Friendship between our Brethren the English and us hath been of an Ancient date and a long continuance, and we cannot more effectually diſtreſs our Enemies than by stedfastly uniting ourselves together against them.

Sir William Johnson then told them that he had promised their Nation at the late Meeting that when the Weather would permit he would send People up to build them a Fort which he now intended speedily to do, and desired their People would agree upon a proper place to build it, and hoped when the Workmen came up, they would use them well, and avoid any Quarrels or Disagreements, and that he would give a charge to the Workmen to behave well on their side.

Then the Conference broke up.

That from which the above is Copied is certified to be a true Extract from the Original Minutes, by Peter Wraxal Secretary for Indian Affairs.

Minutes of Indian treaty
at Fort Johnson
21st Apr. 1756
at ye same time Frds were treating
with them at Philadelphia

or disagreements and that he would give a charge to the Workmen to behave well on their side.

Then the conference broke up

A true copy from the original
minutes examined by me
Peter Wraxall
Sêcry for Indian Affairs.

A true Copy examined by
Benj^n Barons Secry

Report of the Mohawk Delegates.

[New-York Papers, Ll., No. 86.]

Fort Johnson 22^d April 1756 P. M.

The Mohawk Delegates who were sent down to the River Indians waited upon Sir William Johnson and gave him the following account of their negociation

Brother Warraghiyagey

Our Delegates are returned from our Nephews the River Indians, and we are come to this our fire-place with them to give you a relation of their proceedings

Brother

Our Nephews were extreamly glad to see us & expressed their gratitude for our Invitation to them which they readily accepted of, and promised as soon as they could gather their people together, which they beleived would be next month they would remove hither & accept our offers. They said they had looked upon themselves as a people abandoned & were extreamly rejoiced to find their Uncles the Mohawks had not wholly forgott them, but had taken measures for their Wellfare and establishment and that previous to their removal they would despatch some of their young men forwards to give us notice of their coming

Hereupon Sir William answered

Bretheren of the lower Mohawk Castle

I thank you for the account you have given me of your Proceedings with your Nephews the River Indians, I approve thereof and am glad to find they have so readily and gratefully embraced your kind & prudent invitation. When they come and are incorporated with you I shall consider & treat them as Bretheren and assist them accordingly and I hope they will be an addition to your strength and Welfare

A true Copy
Peter Wraxall
Sêcy for Indian Affairs

A true copy examined by
Benj^n Barons
Sec^{ry}.

170

[illegible] 164/100 [illegible] p. m.

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] early

[illegible] Gratitude [illegible] glad [illegible] invitation to them which they readily accepted [illegible] they would gather their people together which they believed would be next Month they would remove hither [illegible] ours [illegible] they had looked upon themselves [illegible] their [illegible] forgot them [illegible] had taken [illegible] their [illegible] removed they [illegible] their [illegible] coming [illegible] Sir William answered.

Brethren of the Lower Mohawk Castle.

I thank you for the Account you have given me of your proceedings with your Nephews the Cherokee Indians & approve thereof. I am glad to find they have so readily & gratefully embraced your kind & prudent Invitation & when they come & are incorporated with you I shall consider & treat them as Brethren & assist them accordingly & I hope they will be an addition to your Strength & Welfare.

and remain from Generation to Generation, that the Chain may be kept bright and never contrac
any Rust again.   Gave a String of Wampum.

Brethren, We hope you will not take amiſs our answering you with so little Wampum and no
making a return of a Belt, the times are very difficult with us and we have very little Wampum
here, and we look upon the White Belt you gave us as belonging to you and us and as an Emblem
of Peace; and shall preserve it as such and carry it to the Six Nations.

We have examined the foregoing & certify that it contains the substance of the Conference held between the Indians & Israel Pemberton and others the 23d April 1756

Conrad Weiser
Danl Claus
Hendrick HM Montour
vulgo Andrew.

The preceeding Minutes being called for to lay before the Governor sooner than expected, there was time to review and add the following concluding Minutes which ought to have been done. viz:

I.P. We are glad to hear what you have said to us, as we believe it to be spoken in Sincerity, and what yo really think, and tho' we judge it to be neceſsary on Matters of Importance to observe the good Metho practiced by you to take time to deliberate, yet as we now believe you have open'd the real Sentime of your Hearts to us, so we being all of one Heart and mind & knowing that many more of our Brethren (that is all true Quakers) will join us herein, can without any Hesitation readily Answer and Aſsure you that we receive all you have said with great Pleasure, and whatever may be the Eve of our Endeavours, We hope on all future Occasions to demonstrate our real Love & Regard for you.

To which They all gave the usual Expreſsions of Approbation.

Then Scarroyady Addreſs'd himself to the Interpreters & said

As we are obliged to make use of your Ears and Tongues we desire you may be hearty & since in attending to the Buſineſs now Undertaken, and to join with our Brethren and us in carrying th same into Execution & he intimated that if they did so, they would merit our Mutual Regard.

To which I.P. answered,

We approve of the prudent Advice you give them and we hope they will remember it & approv themselves worthy of our Regard which we shall not be wanting to manifest to them in a grateful mann
and added, As you are now going on your Journey and the Weather grows warm we give you some Handkerchiefs to wipe the Sweat from your Faces, & some small Matters for your Wives, with some more of medals — Which they Thankfully received and distributed to each present Reserving a few for some their Brethren in Town sick, and then I.P. Added

As you mentioned to us you thought we ought all to apply to the good Spirit that is over a to subdue the Evil Spirit, which had influenced those who had done so much Mischief, We sincerely heartily agree with you and shall fervently desire and pray to God to change their Hearts & tha (if it be his Will) he would protect the Meſsengers now going and grant that they may return safely and with the Meſsage of Peace — Which they attended to, and received with a becoming Sol and Satisfaction.

Then Scarroyady said

Brother Onas — We that are here both Councellors and Warriors of the Six Nations & Women

We return you many Thanks for what you hav

be glad that we had Words ſufficiently Expreſsive of our Love and regard to you.

(Then with mutually Friendly Salutations (by the good old custom of shaking Hands) The Conferences ended, and Scarroydy and most of the Indians sett out on the 25th: 4 mo for New York and thence to Onondago, and the three Embaſsadors on 27th under the Conduct of A J. Spangenberg and others by way of Bethlehem to Wyoming.

At a Conference the 23 4mo. 1756 in the House of Israel Pemberton

Present
Will.m Logan
John Smith
Anthony Benezet
Israel Pemberton
James Pemberton
John Pemberton
Owen Jones
John Reynell
Anthony Morris
Sam.l Powell
James Lownes
John Armitt
Mordecai Yarnall
Dan.l Stanton
Tho.s Brown
Joshua Dixon
Thomas Say
Abr.m Farrington
Isaac Zane
Thomas Lightfoot

Indians Present

Scarroyady	(for) Monakatutha
Kaghswoughtaneyonde	or the Belt,
Tayenqueregoa	or Jonathan
Sadekaronyes	... or Jigrea
Karondo	Newcastle
Otsinados	Sinicka George
Oghsaghrakke	Thick Leg
Oghwistoony	the Smith or Lame Indian
Toyohogato	Green Jacket
Tyadaroonie	David
Thonaghtogo	the Cayuga
Waatsadacko	Sharryadys Boy
Aroas	Silverheels
Will.m Lacquies	a Delaware

and several Indian Women

Conrad Weiser
Andrew Montour } Interpreters
Dan.l Claus

Scarroyady Standing up said, —

Brethren directing his discourse to Onas (by which they mean people like minded wi the first Settlers) We are glad to hear so many of your sort of People are now alive, that you ri again from the Dead and tho' we have been lost to one another a great While, We are very glad to hear you are of the same Sentiments with Onas, Since he was dead, there have from time to time, come New Governors one after another, and another Sort of People, different from the first Settlers, and we lost him (meaning Onas) We are very glad at your rising up & holding the White Belt in your hands as an Emblem of Peace, to endeavour to reconcile the People that are at Warr, We will hold fast what you say and carry it to the Six Nations and add Strength to it, who will be very glad to hear there are some people of the same principles of the first Settlers, for we have not heard of you for many Years. a String.

Brethren We are glad to hear you speak after the Language of Onas and of the principles of Peace he preached or recommended; we thought there were no more of the People of that Principle left in this Country, We are glad to see you now and hear you speak, we will assist you and lay your Belt of Peace before the six Nations who will be glad to hear of you, and tho' this may look to contradict, what the Governor has said to us, We don't mean so but let that be as it is, we assure you what you propose to us is what we like best, and we will assist you in it, and shall send these three Indians (pointing to Newcastle Jigrea & W.m Lacquies) to Wyoming with a message to let our Cousins know mend our Meſsage and what we deſire will be granted. 2 String.

Brethren; as things are now circumstanced we would not have you venture your Lives to go or send any Meſsage over the Mountains to the Delawares or Shawaneſe they are now your and our Enemies, we will venture our Lives to make the Road clear but do you stay where you are, if they have their Throats cut you cannot then hear from them, but it may please the Most High that they may return Meſsengers of Peace, and if they should bring you an Agreeable Answer, we then deſire you may Act the part of Wise men & be careful in settling a Treaty and then you may go to meet them, but do not stir untill you hear from us. 3 String.

Brethren, as we told you before these three Men, two of whom are of the Council of the Six Nations and Warriors, and the other one of our Cousins have undertaken to go where ever we shall ſend them and perhaps it may please the most High to bring them back in Safety and with an Agreeable Anſwer. If they come back take Notice of them as your form Friends and, as you are Children of Onas & ſome of us are of the Council and some Warriors of the Six Nations, we are very deſirous that by your means, the Treaties of Friendship which have formerly subsisted between us may now be renewed

23d of 4th mo: 1756

Present Anthony Morris, James Lownes, Samuel Powell, Joshua Fisher, Abrm Farrington, Mordt Yarnall, D Stanton, Owen Jones, Antho: Benezett, Isaac Zane, Israel Pemberton, John Armitt, Thomas Lightfoot, Thomas Say, John Pemberton, James Pemberton, John Smith, John Reynell, Wm Logan

Indians Present

Scarrowady — Jonathan
Old Belt & Wife — Jagrea
Newcastle — Silverheels &c
Tonoantoqua ~~[illegible]~~ Cayugo — Armourid

Delaware Will

Interpreters—
C Weiser
Clawse
A. Montour

Scharoyada, standing up said, Brethren, directing his discourse to Onas, by which they mean people like minded the first settlers we are glad to hear so many of your sort of ~~people are~~ now alive and that you rise again from the dead, tho' we have been lost to one another a great while, we are very glad to hear you are of the same sentiments with Onas. ~~Meaning Wm Penn~~ ~~When~~ Since he was ~~dead~~, there ~~came~~ have from time to time came new Governours one after another & another sort of people different from the first settlers, and we lost him; we ~~are~~ very glad at your rising up ~~& holding~~ the ~~white~~ Belt in your hands, as an Emblem ~~of~~ Peace, to Endeavour to reconcile the people that are at War, we will hold fast what you say & carry it to the 6 nations, & add strength to it who will be very glad to hear there are some people of the same principles ~~of your good dis~~ ~~[illegible]~~ first settlers, for they have not heard of you for many years

first string—

Brethren, as I told you t'other day, I would take your request & hold it fast & carry it to the 6 nations so now I tell you that what ever we hear from Governours ~~may be good or bad~~, ~~but~~ we are very glad of the opportunity of treating with ~~Wm Penn~~ Onas again, with whom we made the first treaties of friendship, and we will from this place send these 3 Indians, to Wyoming with a Message to let our Cousins know, there are a people risen in Philadelphia, who desire to have Peace restored, and that they ~~must~~ must cease doing any more mischief, and not be afraid to be willing to treat with you and they are sure they will mind their message, and what we desire shall be granted

Newcastle
Jagrea
Wm Locquies }

2d. String.

Brethren, as things are now circumstanced we would not have you venture your lives to go or send any our Susquehannah message, to the Delawares or Shawnese they are great Enemies, we will venture our lives to make the road clear ~~good~~, but you stay where you are

fur

They may be Kill'd, then you can't hear from them but
Perhaps it may please the most high to make them
they bring
messengers of Peace, and if ~~we send~~ you an agreeable
answer, then act the part of wise men, & be careful in
making your treaty - then go and meet them, but do
not stir 'till you hear from us.

3. string

Men, 2 of w.ch are of y.e Council
Brethren, as we told you before, these 3 ~~brethren~~ have
shall
undertaken to go where~~ever~~ we send them, & perhaps it may
please the most high to send them back with their lives
if they Come back take notice of them as your true friends
and a good answer, and as you are Wm. Penn's children
and some of us are of the Council & some warriors of
the six nations, we desire that the treaties formerly
made between us may be renewed & continued from
that y.e Chain may be kept bright
generation to generation, & never contract any rust
& give this string — We hope you will not take
as a promise with so small a string of wampum & not
amiss our making no return of ~~the~~ belt, because we look
[illegible] you gave as you & an emblem
upon that as belonging to us ~~both~~, as ~~the message~~ of Peace
before
Shall keep it as safe carry it to the Six Nations

Bro.s
Oskanondoen or W.L. what you told us the other day that when
[illegible] left the country he left the care of Indian affairs
which we know
[illegible] them, and he was our good friend, & very kind to
us. & he left the same charge to you, when he died, which
and that you desire to be kind to us
we are very glad to hear, and we will take your string
carry it to the 6 nations, & then return a free answer

he Recommended Your Father a particular Care of the Indians Which We know &
he Was Our Good Friend and Very kind to us & sometime before he died he left the same Charge to
You

Rough Draughts of the
Minutes of Conferences
wth. the Indians — Ano. 1756

At a Council held at Philadelphia Wednesday the 21st: April 1756.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell
Lawrence Growdon
Joseph Turner
Benjamin Shoemaker
Richard Peters
Thomas Cadwalader } Esquires

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor acquainted the Council of the Return of the Gentlemen vizt. Benjamin Chew, Alexander Stedman and Edward Shippen Esquires, and Mr William West, whom he, by the Advice of the Council, sent up to Lancaster, to enquire into the Causes of the proposed Meeting of so great a Number of the Inhabitants of the Frontier Counties at Lancaster, as was represented to the Governor and Council on the Fifteenth Instant; and that he had called them together to receive these Gentlemen's Report of their Proceedings; and they, except Mr Chew who is indisposed; being called in, made their Report: And, the same having been taken into Consideration, the Governor desired the Council's Advice, whether by any thing in his Power, without the Aid of Legislature, he could put the Western Part of the Frontier into a sufficient Posture of Defence; and if not, whether he should not call the Assembly to meet at Lancaster, and urge them to enable him to do it by Law; that the Consequences of so monstrous a Situation as this poor Province is in might not lye at his Door.

After fully considering and debating the Point, the Council advised the Governor, to call the Assembly to meet at Philadelphia on Monday the Tenth of May, the Governor declaring that he had appointed to be at Harris's Ferry the next Week, in order to see the Provincial Regiment set off for Shamokin, and that if it was called sooner, he could not attend it; but he could and would send a proper and full Message to the House, who might in his Absence deliberate upon the Matter, and send him their Answer. It being judged necessary that he should be present, the Council advised the Tenth of May, and Writs to summon the Assembly issued accordingly.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Saturday the 24th: April 1756.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell
William Logan
Benjamin Shoemaker
Joseph Turner
Richard Peters
Thomas Cadwalader } Esquires

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor having prepared a Letter to Sir William Johnson to be delivered him by Scarroyady, who setts off to morrow the same was read and approved; and a Paſsport was sign'd for the Indians to take with them.

A Letter from Sir Charles Hardy of the Sixteenth Instant, referred to in the Letter to Sir William Johnson, was likewise read, and both which follow in these Words.

A Letter from the Governor to Sir William Johnson.

Philadelphia 24th April 1756

Sir

I have the Honour to acknowledge the Receit of yours of the 6th March, which Mr Clause delivered to me with the Copy of the Treaty- The Indians adhere so closely to their tedious Ceremonies, that I am sensible you must have had a most fatiguing Time of it- It is however some Compensation to receive the Satisfaction you expreſs in finding the Indians so well disposed towards his Majesty's Interest.

It was very kind and well judged to join Scarroyady with you in the several Matters relating to this Government, and it had no doubt a good Effect on the Minds of the Six Nations, and I have the Pleasure to find by what you say, that Scarroyady is in high Esteem with them.

Our particular Complaints are well and strongly laid before them, but I cannot help expreſsing my Concern at your being obliged to repeat them so often before they would give their final Answer, nor do I observe that the Senecas joined with the rest of the Nations in their Resolution to send a peremptory Meſsage ~~Answer~~ to the Delawares to desist, or that they sent any Deputies.

You cannot conceive what Havock has been made by the Enemy in this defenceleſs Province, nor what Numbers of Murders they have committed, what a vast Tract of Territory they have laid waste, and what a Multitude of Inhabitants of all Ages and both Sexes they have carried into Captivity: by Information of several of the Prisoners who made their Eſcape from them, I can aſsure you, that there are not leſs than three hundred of our People in Servitude to them and the French on the Ohio, the most of them at Shingas's Town called Kittannin, about thirty Miles above Fort Duquesne, and Scarroyady and Montour must have acquainted You, that they saw more or leſs English Prisoners in almost every one of the Delaware Towns on the Sasquehannah as high up as Diahoga.

At first the Enemy appeared in small Parties, and committed their Outrages where they could do it with most Safety to themselves, but of late they have penetrated into the inhabited Part of the Country in larger Bodies, and have defeated several Detachments of our armed Forces, burned and laid waste whole Countries, and spread a general Terror amongst us, so that I have been constrained to yield to the importunate Demands of the enraged People, (not being able otherwise to afford them a sufficient Protection for want of Arms, Ammunition and an equal and compulsory Militia Law) to declare the Delaware Nation Enemies and Rebels to his Majesty, and to offer large Rewards for Prisoners and Scalps, hoping that this would engage such of our Inhabitants as had any

Courage left, as well as all others in the neighbouring Provinces, to hunt, pursue and attack them in their own Country, and by these means keep them at home for the Defence of their own Towns, and prevent the total Desertion of the Back Counties, which there is good Reason to be apprehensive of. But this Measure, tho loudly call'd for on my Return from New York in December last, and since importunately and frequently repeated, was not taken till near a month after the Return of Scarroyady and Montour; and by their Advice, they, as well as we, observing the Power of the Enemy to be daily encreasing, and judging this the likeliest Way to bring them to hearken to the Six Nations, and to move for Peace on honourable Terms, I own had I had the least Notion that they could be stopped in the midst of their furious Career, I would not have gratified the People; but despairing of this, you will agree with me, that no other Method is so likely as this to bring a Force into the Enemy's Country, and drive them from their lurking Places and from their Towns. The Proclamation, one of which I herewith send you, was not iſsued above a Week before I received from Sir Charles Hardy the agreeable Account of the Return of the Six Nation Deputies, who were sent to the Delawares, and of their having aſsured you they had made up that unhappy Affair, and that the Delawares expected those of their People who might be taken Prisoners by us to be delivered up as soon as poſsible, and then they promised to deliver up those they had of ours. Be aſsured, Sir, that We have no Prisoners of theirs, unleſs they can call a Delaware Indian so who was put into Gaol, in order to keep him out of Harms Way, being informed against and lying under strong Suspicions of having burnt and destroyed some of the Plantations on the Frontiers. Except this, we have not a single Delaware Prisoner, and this must be well known to them, and therefore their Demand does not look well, especially as they were the Aggreſsors, and by all Forms of Proceeding, Indian as well as English, the Six Nations ought, on this Account, to have insisted on it as a Preliminary, and the only Test they could give of their Sincerity, that they should deliver up our People which they have taken Prisoners, and of which Numbers are known to be in their Towns; and it is expected from the Six Nations, that they will cause this to be done, before we be requested to lay down our Arms, who are innocent, and most wrongfully and unexpectedly attacked, whilst living in Peace and Friendship with the Delawares, and all other Indians.

You may be aſsured, Sir, that a Peace on honourable Terms will be extremely acceptable, as we form this charitable Opinion of the Delawares, that they were hurried into this Measure by the Artifices and Intimidations of the French, and did always believe, when they came to open their Eyes, they would relent and cease injuring their innocent Brethren and Allies, who have never hurt them either in Thought or Action. It was this Opinion of that good Disposition towards us that influenced us to suffer so long their Hostilities, without declaring them Enemies, until the Blood streamed in such Quantities down our Mountains, and filled the Vallies to such a Degree, that we could no longer delay the Publication of their horrid Cruelties.

I do not perceive that any of the Delawares living on the Ohio came to the Meeting appointed by the Deputies of the Six Nations, or that they have been spoke to; and they are, as you well know, the most numerous of all. Indeed the main Body of the Delawares live at Kittannin, and the other Delaware Towns on and beyond the Ohio, and have been the most mischievous, and do still, even so late as last Week, continue to murder and destroy our Inhabitants, treating them with the most barbarous Inhumanity that can be conceived. I should be glad to know whether these have expreſsed a Desire of Peace, and on what Terms the Six Nations propose to settle it; for unleſs these be made to desist, our Inhabitants will be in as bad Plight as ever.

A Party of Delawares lately done some Mischief in Potomack; they were headed by a French Officer, who was killed, and the Party routed, and in the Officers Pocket was found a Paper of Instructions from the French Commandant, Monsieur Dumas at Fort DuQuesne, ordering him to burn and destroy what he could meet with on that River; from the Ohio therefore we must expect the greatest Mischief, and all Means poſsible should be used to separate the Delawares and Shawonese from the French there, and prevail with them not to join in burning, ravaging and laying waste our Frontier Counties.

Against these the Proclamation was principally calculated, and you must be sensible I cannot recall it, till I know the precise Terms on which the Six Nations have mediated the Peace. However, you will be the best Judge of what is proper for me to do, or what it is the Indians will expect from me on that Occasion, of which be pleased to advise me, and favour me with your Sentiments, which will always have their Weight with me, as you can always come at and settle these Matters in Conference with the Indians, and I should be apt to mistake at such a Distance from them.

The Colonies are sensible of your Influence over the Indians, and admire the Zeal with which you prosecute their true Interest, and applaud the happy Succeſs that has hitherto attended your Arms and Negotiations; and in particular the Colonies exposed to the French owe you great Obligations for the Dispatch with which you lately appeared with so considerable a Force at the carrying Place, and disappointed the French. May the same Succeſs attend you in the present March, and may we have the Pleasure to hear you have drove off the Enemy now said to have invested the important Fortreſs of Oswego, and preserved it to the British Crown. I am with great Esteem and Regard

Sir

Your most obedient humble Servant

Robt. H. Morris

Pennsylvania. 1756.

A Letter to the Governor from Sir Charles Hardy.

Fort George. New York 16th: April 1756.

Sir

I am favourd with your Letter of the 5th. by which I see from the Resolutions of your Commissioners, the Proposal I had the Honour to make you, for attacking the Indians, by a joint Force of our Provinces and New Jersey, is at an End; as it must be too late to make such an Attempt; after the Fort you propose building at Shamokin is compleated. Had this Service been undertaken in due Season, I trust, by a vigorous Pursuit and Attack of those Indians in their Places of Abode and Retreat, they might soon have been obliged to have sued for Peace. Under this Consideration I pleased myself in the hopes that your Commissioners would have accepted the Assistance offered by this and the Province of New Jersey.

By a Letter of the 5th: Instant from Sir William Johnson he tells me that he hears 300 Warriors of the Delawares &ca. appeared at the Meeting at Otseningo, and told the Delegates of the Six Nations, that they would, agreeable to their Desire, lay down the Hatchet, provided their Chief Men were willing; their Resolutions Sir William had not received. None of their chief Men attending that Meeting, and the Answer of the young ones appears evasive, I have wrote Sir William Johnson very pressingly upon it, and desired him to urge the Six Nations to take some speedy and vigorous Resolutions with regard to the Delawares; when I receive their Determination I shall communicate them to you.

The Connection between the Delawares and the Indians of the Six Nations makes it difficult for me to offer you my Thoughts on your declaring War with the Delawares; upon the whole, I should not think it adviseable, till we know what Steps they have, and will further take with their Nephews. I have wrote Sir William Johnson on this Subject; and if, on his further pressing this Matter to the Indians, they should decline chastising their Dependents, I should judge they will give them up to be punished, in either of which cases, a Declaration of War, in my Opinion, will not only be justifiable, but necessary. But then the principal Means of carrying on such a War is wanting, by having no Law to subject your Forces to Military Discipline, and while Officers and Soldiers can take a Liberty of deserting their Stations, whenever the Service becomes disagreeable, your Number will not avail you, nor can Forts be maintained.

By late Advices from the West Indies, we learn the French Islands are in want of Provisions (and I hope Canada may be in no better State) and that their Ports are open to Ships of all Nations with such Supplies; The Trade carried on by these Colonies to the Dutch Islands &ca will not only amply supply the French Islands, but will doubtless encourage them to attempt throwing in large Quantities to Louisburg, from whence Canada may easily be furnished. It appears to me absolutely necessary to prevent all Supplies of Provisions going from these Colonies at this Time, and the only Method to answer this good Purpose, must be by proper Laws passed in the Provision Colonies, prohibiting such an Exportation. The Assembly of this Province are to meet soon, when I shall recommend to them to pass such a Law, which if they should come into, will not prevent the Enemy's being supplied, in the manner abovementioned, without the neighbouring Governments concur in the same Measure; I have made this Proposal to them, and beg Leave to recommend it to your Consideration, and beg your Thoughts upon it, and the Resolutions of your Assembly, if you think proper to recommend it to them. — April 18th: Yesterday I received several Letters from Albany, and Sir William Johnson, inclosing me Copies of others from Colo. Mercer and Capt. Williams at the Great Carrying Place, informing me that a Body of French and Indians have posted themselves and are surrounded with Pickets, about Twelve Miles to the Eastward of Oswego; and that Colo. Mercer has further Information from some Indians, that another Body of Indians &ca are on their March from Niagara, which together with the first mentioned are to form an Attack on Oswego. This is the Substance of my Information with respect to the Motions of the Enemy; General Shirley's Absence, and great Distance from the Scene of Action, makes it impossible for him to give the proper Orders in due Time, to stop the Progress of the Enemy in that Quarter, the want of which enables them to make Advances that I fear will tend greatly to the Prejudice of his Majesty's Service, and the Interest of these Provinces; Under these Circumstances, I have, by the Return of the Express, offered my Thoughts to the Commanding Officers at the Head Quarters, and recommended to them to pursue such Measures as to me appears most proper on the present Emergency. Colonel Bradstreet is set off with a very considerable Number of Whale Boats and Battoes with Provisions for Oswego, which they have much wanted, I wish he may arrive safe with his Convoy; I think his Voyage will be hazardous, if the Enemy get footing on the Waters leading to that Fort. In short, Sir, from the Accounts I have received, Things do not appear to be so well regulated as they necessarily should be for promoting the publick Service, and if the French once post, it will cost us much more to remove them, than it would to have prevented their gaining any such Advantage.

By my Letters from Sir William Johnson, the last of the 12th Instant, which I received yesterday, I think we have at last brought about an Accommodation with the Delawares, his Accounts are as follow. in his first Letter, viz. "As

"I

"I finished my Letter Two Oneida Indians, on whom I can depend, brought
"me an Account that the Delegates sent to treat with the Delawares were
"returned, and say, that they have settled that unhappy Breach between them
"and us, they are to be here in two or three Days (meaning Fort Johnson) when
"I shall be able to give your Excellency a true State of their Proceedings at
"that Meeting. They further add, that the Delawares have engaged to join us
"with the Six Nations, against the French."

In his last Letter he says, "this Evening some of the Delegates sent to treat
"with the Delawares arrived here (meaning Mount Johnson) with several of
"the Oneidas, Tuscororas, Onondagoes and Mohawks, I have only Time to tell
"your Excellency that they aſsure me they have made up that unhappy Affair,
"and that the Delawares expect those of their People who may be Prisoners,
"be delivered up as soon as possible, and then they promise to deliver up those
"they have of ours; they say they will join the Six Nations against the French, if
"they desire it; I shall write your Excellency more about it as soon as I hear all
"they have to say."

Thus far I hope thro the Interposition of the Six Nations this Affair is in a fair Way of being brought to a happy Iſsue, and I hope will encourage you not to declare War against those People, though I observe your Paper makes Mention of their being declared Enemies, and Rewards offered for Scalps. The Mohawks have sent Four of their Sachems to invite our River Indians to remove to their Castles, and I hear propose giving them a Portion of their Lands to settle upon.

Upon a Review of my Proposal for a Prohibition of the Exportation of Provisions, I must beg Leave to make this Addition to it, that if the Aſsemblys should decline paſsing the neceſsary Laws for this Purpose, that the Governments should agree to lay an Embargo, which will most effectually answer the End desired. I shall have no Difficulty in this Measure, with the Concurrence of the neighbouring Governments, and think I can answer for that of his Majesty's Council of this Province.

I am with great Regard
Your most obedient
and humble Servant
Chas. Hardy

The Governor acquainted the Council that Captain Hobson of the Forty Fourth Regiment was arrested, and in Jayl, as he was going to mount his Horse to return to the Regiment, and had presented a Petition, praying the Governor's Protection; whereupon he had prepared a Writ of Protection which was read, and the Council declared their Ignorance of the Legality or Force of such Writ; but if of Force, as the Governor says it is, Captain Hobson is entitled to all the Relief the Governor can give him.

Then the Governor acquainted the Council, that Mr. Israel Pemberton some days ago came to him, and said, many of the Friends, as well as he, were of Opinion, that if a proper Meſsage could be delivered to the Delawares, they would hearken to it, and might be brought to sue for a Peace; and, with the Governor's Leave, they would ask the Indians to dine with them, and learn their Thoughts upon it, and if they concurred with them in Opinion, they would try to bring it about, and be at all the Expence, nor make it a Government Affair, but a private one of their own; to which the Governor consented, on this expreſs Condition, that nothing should be said to them but by Mr. Weiser; and that all that should paſs should be faithfully related to him for his further Consent — That afterwards Mr. Weiser and Mr. Pemberton acquainted him, that the Quakers, after setting forth to the Indians their peaceable Profeſsions and religious Principles with respect to War, offered to become Mediators between the Government and the Delawares, and to send some of their People into the Indian Country, with Meſsages for this Purpose, to try if they could not persuade them to lay down their Arms, and requested some Indians to accompany them, and aſsist in this good and charitable Work. — That Scarroyady was greatly pleased with this Proposal, and declared he and the Six Nations would join with them in it; that they were thereupon consulting with the Indians about a proper Meſsage, and would acquaint him with it, as soon as it should be settled — That the Quakers would bear all the Expence, and do nothing without the Governor's Approbation and Concurrence — That he told Mr. Pemberton, when Matters were brought to a proper Ripeneſs, he would then lay them before the Council, and take their Advice upon it — That this Afternoon Mr. Pemberton and Mr. Weiser came to acquaint him, that, after long and mature Deliberations, it was at last concluded, that Scarroyady only should send a Meſsage, in the Name of the Six Nations, setting forth their Conferences with the Quakers, their religious Profeſsions and their Characters, and the Influence they had as well with the Government as the People, their desiring to bring about a Peace, and their Offer to become Mediators between them and the Government; that he and the other Six Nations had heard what they said with Pleasure, and desired they would hearken to it, cease their Hostilities, and accept this Mediation; and least they might be afraid, that they had done too much Mischief, and taken away too many Lives, even more than could poſsibly be forgiven, he aſsured them these peaceable People, would, notwithstanding this, obtain their Pardon, if they would immediately desist, send the English Prisoners to some certain Place, there deliver them up to the Governor, and request Peace of him, and Forgiveneſs for what was past.

On this the Governor said he called the Council, and desires their Opinion and Advice on these Questions.

1st: Whether it is proper that such a Message should be allowed to be sent by Friends, in order to mediate a Peace with the Indians? and if so,

2dly: Whether such an one as is proposed, or any other?

3dly: Whether this Government should appear to countenance the Message, and how far, and in what Manner; or if it should only tacitly allow of such a Message being sent by Friends, as an Application of their own, and as an Affair entirely of a private Nature?

4thly: Whether there is not Reason to fear, that this Message being sent before the proposed Expedition to build a Fort at Shamokin, is carried into Execution, may not be attended with ill Consequences, in apprizing the Enemy Indians of our Design, and if they happen not to be well disposed for a Peace, may they not obstruct or harrass our Forces in their March to Shamokin?

5thly: Whether he shall give any private Orders to the Messengers to bring back with them Paxinosa, or other friendly Indians of the Shawonese &ca. that may be inclined to leave the Sasquehannah, and live under our Protection among the Inhabitants; and if such Message be approved, then the Signals and the Way of their Return must be setled?

The Council were long in their Consideration, and advised the Governor not to interest the Government any way in such a Message, but to leave it entirely to Friends — That it might be well enough to acquaint the Messengers, if they should see Paxinosa, or any other friendly Indians to assure them of our Affection to them, and Willingness to give them a kind Reception, and to persuade them to come with them.

The Signal agreed upon was a small Union Flag to be carried on high on a Pole by the Indians.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Monday the 26th April 1756.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell   William Logan } Esquires
Joseph Turner   Richard Peters }

The Minutes of the preceeding Council were read and approved.

The Governor informed the Council, that Newcastle, Jagrea and William Lacquis came to him this morning, as he thought to take their Leave of him, their Guides and Passports having been prepared, and the Men ready to set out who were to guard them thro the Inhabitants; but to his Surprise they made the following Speech to him:

Brother the Governor,

The other day it was agreed between Scarroyady and some other of our Indians on one Part, and some of the good People of this Town on the other Part, that we three should go with a Message from Scarroyady to our Cousins

the

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Saturday the 24th April, 1756.

PRESENT:

The Honourable **ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS**, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell,	Joseph Turner,	Esquires.
William Logan,	Richard Peters,	
Benjamin Shoemaker,	Thomas Cadwalader,	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor having prepared a Letter to Sir William Johnson to be delivered him by Scarroyady, who setts off to-morrow, the same was read and approved; and a Passport was sign'd for the Indians to take with them.

A Letter from Sir Charles Hardy, of the Sixteenth Instant, referred to in the Letter to Sir William Johnson, was likewise read, and both which follow in these words:

A Letter from the Governor to Sir William Johnson.

"PHILADELPHIA, 24th April, 1756.

"Sir:

"I have the Honour to acknowledge the Receit of yours of the 6th March, which Mr. Clause delivered to me with the Copy of the Treaty. The Indians adhere so closely to their tedious Ceremonies that I am sensible you must have had a most fatiguing Time of it. It is, however, some compensation to receive the Satisfaction you express in finding the Indians so well disposed towards his Majesty's Interest.

"It was very kind and well judged to join Scarroyady with you in the several Matters relating to this Government, and it had no doubt a good effect on the Minds of the Six Nations, and I have the Pleasure to find by what you say, that Scarroyady is in high Esteem with them.

"Our Particular Complaints are well and strongly laid before them, but I cannot help expressing my concern at your being obliged to repeat them so often, before they would give their final Answer, nor do I observe that the Senecas joined With the rest of the nations in their Resolutions to send a peremptory message to the Delawares to desist, or that they sent any Deputies.

"You cannot conceive what Havock has been made by the Enemy in this defenceless Province, nor what Numbers of Murders they have committed; what a vast Tract of Territory they have laid waste, and what a Multitude of Inhabitants, of all ages and both sexes, they have carried into Captivity; by Information of several of the Prisoners, who made their Escape from them, I can assure you that there are not less than three hundred of our People in Servitude to them and the French, on the Ohio, the most of them at Shingas' Town, called Kittanning, about thirty Miles above Fort Duquesne; and Scarroyady and Montour must have acquainted you, that they saw more or less English Prisoners, in almost every one of the Delaware Towns on the Sasquehannah, as high up as Diahoga.

"At first the Enemy appeared in small Parties, and committed their Outrages where they could do it with most Safety to themselves; but of late they have penetrated into the inhabited Part of the Country in larger Bodies, and have defeated several Detachments of our armed Forces, burned and laid waste whole Countries, and spread a general Terror amongst us, so that I have been constrained to yield to the importunate Demands of the enraged People (not being able otherwise to afford them a sufficient Protection, for want of Arms, ammunition, and an equal and compulsory Militia Law), to declare the Delaware Nation Enemies and Rebels to his Majesty, and to offer large Rewards for Prisoners and Scalps, hoping that this would engage such of our Inhabitants, as had any Courage left, as well as all others in the neighbouring Provinces, to hunt, pursue, and attack them in their own Country, and by these means keep them at home for the Defence of their own Towns, and prevent the total Desertion of the Back Counties, which there is good Reason to be apprehensive of. But this Measure, tho' loudly called for on my Return from New York, in December last, and since importunately and frequently repeated, was not taken till near a month after the Return of Scarroyady and Montour, and by their advice, they, as well as we, observing the Power of the Enemy to be daily encreasing, and judging this the likeliest way to bring them to hearken to the Six Nations, and to move for Peace on honourable Terms; I own, had I had the least Notion that they could be stopped in the midst of their furious career, I would not have gratified the People; but despairing of this, you will agree with me, that no other Method is so likely as this to bring a Force into the Enemy's Country, and drive them from their lurking Places, and from their Towns. The Proclamation, one of which I herewith send you, was not issued above a Week before I received from Sir Charles Hardy the agreeable account of the Return of the Six Nation Deputies who were sent to the Delawares, and of their having assured you they had made up that unhappy affair, and that the Delawares expected those of their People who might be taken Prisoners by us to be delivered up as soon as possible, and then they promised to deliver up those they had of ours. Be assured, Sir, that We have no Prisoners of theirs, unless they can call a Delaware Indian so who was put into Gaol in order to keep him out of Harm's Way, being informed against and lying under strong Suspicions, of Having burnt and destroyed some of the Plantations on the Frontiers. Except this, we have not a single Delaware Prisoner, and this must be well known to them; and therefore, their Demand does not look well, especially, as they were the aggressors, and by all Forms of Proceedings, Indians as well as English; the Six Nations ought, on this Account, to have insisted on it as a Preliminary, and the only Test they could give of their Sincerity, that they should deliver up our People which they have taken Prisoners, and of which Numbers are known to be in their Towns; and it is expected from the Six Nations, that they will cause this to be done before we be requested to lay down our arms, who are innocent, and most wrongfully and unexpectedly attacked, whilst living in Peace and Friendship with the Delawares and all other Indians.

"You may be assured, Sir, that a Peace on honourable Terms will be extremely acceptable; as we form this charitable Opinion of the Delawares, that they were hurried into this Measure by the Artifices and Intimidations of the French, and did always believe, when they came to open their eyes, they would relent and cease injuring their innocent Brethren and allies, who have never hurt them either in Thought or Action. It was this Opinion of that good Disposition towards us, that influenced us to suffer so long their Hostilities, without declaring them Enemies, until the Blood streamed in such Quantities down our Mountains, and filled the Vallies to such a Degree, that we could no longer delay the Publication of their horrid Cruelties.

"I do not perceive that any of the Delawares living on the Ohio came to the Meeting appointed by the Deputies of the Six nations, or that they have been spoke to; and they are, as you well know, the most numerous of all. Indeed, the main Body of the Delawares live at Kittanning and the other Delaware Towns on and beyond the Ohio, and have been the most mischievous, and do still, even so late as last Week, continue to murder and destroy our Inhabitants, treating them with the most barbarous Inhumanity that can be conceived. I should be glad to know whether these have expressed a Desire of Peace, and on what Terms the Six Nations propose to settle it; for unless these be made to desist, our Inhabitants will be in as Bad Plight as ever.

"A Party of Delawares lately done some Mischief in Potomack; they were headed by a French Officer, who was killed, and the Party routed; and in the Officer's Pocket was found a Paper of Instructions from the French Commandant, Monsieur Dumas, at Fort Du Quesne, ordering him to burn and destroy what he could meet with on that River; from the Ohio, therefore, we must expect the greatest Mischief, and all Means possible should be used to separate the Delawares and Shawonese from the French there, and prevail with them not to join in burning, ravaging, and laying waste our Frontier Counties.

"Against these the Proclamation was principally calculated, and you must be sensible I cannot recall it till I know the precise Terms on which the Six Nations have mediated the Peace. However, you will be the best Judge of what is proper for me to do, or what it is the Indians will expect from me on that occasion, of which be pleased to advise me, and favour me with your Sentiments, which will always have their Weight with me, as you can always come at and settle these Matters in Conference with the Indians, and I should be apt to mistake at such a Distance from them.

"The Colonies are sensible of your Influence over the Indians, and admire the Zeal with which you prosecute their true Interest, and applaud the Happy success that has hitherto attended your Arms and Negotiations; and in particular the Colonies exposed to the French owe you great Obligations for the Dispatch with which you lately appeared with so considerable a Force at the carrying Place, and disappointed the French. May the same Success attend you in the present March, and may we have the Pleasure to hear you have drove off the Enemy now said to have invested the important Fortress of Oswego, and preserved it to the British Crown. I am, with great Esteem and Regard,

"Sir, Your most obedient humble Servant,

"ROBT. H. MORRIS."

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A Letter to the Governor from Sir Charles Hardy.

"Fort George, New York, 16th April, 1756.

"Sir:

"I am favoured with your Letter of the 5th, by which I see from the Resolutions of your Commissioners the Proposal I had the Honour to make you for attacking the Indians by a joint Force of our Provinces and new Jersey is at an End, as it must be too late to make such an Attempt, after the Fort you propose building at Shamokin is compleated. Had this Service been undertaken in due Season, I trust, by a vigorous Pursuit and attack of those Indians in their Places of abode and Retreat, they might soon have been obliged to have sued for Peace. Under this Consideration I pleased myself in the hopes that Your Commissioners would have accepted the assistance offered by this and the Province of New Jersey.

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Resolutions with regard to the Delawares. When I receive their Determinations I shall communicate them to you.

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"By my Letters from Sir William Johnson, the last of the 12th Instant, which I received yesterday, I think we have at last brought about an Accommodation with the Delawares. His Accounts are as follow. In his first Letter, vis^{t}: 'As I finished my Letter, Two Oneida Indians, on whom I can depend, brought me an account, that the Delegates sent to treat with the Delawares were returned, and say that they have settled that unhappy Breach between them and us. They are to be here in two or three Days (meaning Fort Johnson), when I shall be able to give your Excellency a true State of their Proceedings at that Meeting. They further add that the Delawares have engaged to join us, with the Five Nations, against the French.'

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"CHAS. HARDY."

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"3dly. Whether this Government should appear to countenance the Message, and how far and in what Manner, or if it should only tacitly allow of such a Message being sent by Friends as an application of their own and as an affair entirely of a private nature?

"4thly. Whether there is not Reason to fear that this Message, being sent before the Proposed Expedition to build a Fort at Shamokin is carried into Execution, may not be attended with ill consequences in apprizing the Enemy Indians of our Design, and if they happen not be well disposed for a Peace, may they not obstruct or barrass our Forces in their March to Shamokin?

"5thly. Whether he shall give any private Orders to the Messengers to bring back with them Paxinosa or other friendly Indians of the Shawonese, &ca· that may be inclined to leave the Sasquehannah, and live under our Protection among the Inhabitants; and if such Message be approved, then the Signals and the way of their Return must be settled?"

The Council were long in their consideration, and advised the Governor not to interest the Government any way in such a Message, but to leave it entirely to Friends; That it might be well enough to acquaint the Messengers if they should see Paxonosa, or any other friendly Indians, to assure them of our affection to them, and Willingness to give them a kind Reception, and to persuade them to come with them.

The Signal agreed upon was a small Union Flag to be carried on high on a Pole by the Indians.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Monday the 26th April, 1756.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell,	William Logan,	Esquires.
Joseph Turner,	Richard Peters,	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor informed the Council that Newcastle, Jagrea, and William Lacquis came to him this morning, as he thought to take their Leave of him, their Guides and Passports having been prepared, and the Men ready to set out who were to guard them thro' the Inhabitants; but to his Surprize they made the following Speech to him:

"Brother the Governor:

"The other day it was agreed between Scarroyady and some other of our Indians on one Part, and some of the good People of this Town on the other Part, that we three should go with a Message from Scarroyady to our Cousins, the Delawares, at Wyomink; but as Scarroyady never consulted us before hand, and took upon him in too peremptory a Manner to order us to go, we now come to acquaint the Governor that he had no Right to do this: we are not his Vassals, nor to be treated in so haughty a Manner; and, therefore, we tell the Governor that we will not carry any of Scarroyady's Messages. If the Governor has anything to say to us we will hear what he says, and if he desires us to go, and will tell us what to say when we come there, we will go and deliver faithfully the Governor's Message; but we will not go on Scarroyady's Errands."

In reply the Governor told the Indians that he understood it was a Point agreed upon between the Indians and some of the principal Quakers that Newcastle and the other Two should go to Wyomink, and in the name of Scarroyady carry a Message to the Enemy Delawares, dictated by the Quakers, full of good advice, and very proper for People of their Peaceable Persuasion, and that this change of their mind was a surprize upon him; but if they were determined not to go he had no Power over them.

He added that he had received some advices which he would communicate to them as soon as he should have consulted his Council, and he would call them to meet this Forenoon.

The Governor then ordered Sir Charles Hardy's Letter of the Sixteenth of April to be read, which being done, he told the Council

Philadelphia 25 Apr. 1756

Honoured Sir.

My last was of the 1st March covering Duplicates of my letters by the Packet. ſince which I am honoured with yours of the 13th of December & 10th January which came to hand on Wedneſday last.

The Aſsembly have sat, with only the intervention of a fortnight, from the 3d February to the 11th Instant. and during this long unactive and tiresome Seſsion they have done very little buſineſs except at the close. They offered to the Governor a Bill to extend the Excise for five years in the same words with all the former Excise Acts, to which the Governor made only one single Amendment Viz.t that the Money raised by that Act shoud be at the disposal of Governor and Aſsembly. but this they have absolutely refused and say they will never consent to the terms, so the Bill drops. the Governor did not mention his making the Amendment by your Inſtructions which he ſhoud have done, and it must be done for the future.— They offer'd likewise a Bill to renew the City Watch Act which expires in October, ~~with~~ making some new Regulations about Lamps well enough considered— but in this to shew they never

fail

PENN MANUSCRIPTS - Official Correspondence.

fail to attempt taking from the Magistrates the little Shadow of Power conceded to them it was proposed that the Constables should be appointed by the Wardens, and further that these Tools of the Party should be the Sole Court of Appeal on Complaints, excluding all the Magistrates — The Bill is amended in these particulars and will I suppose Paſs:— The Aſsembly called on the Governor for the Bill to regulate the Indian Trade, which he keeps and will never Paſs unleſs they accede to his Amendments which put matters on a reasonable Foot. and this they never will do, so the Bill will drop, and I shall be glad as Copies of it have been sent by two Conveyances to have your thoughts on this Subject. In this Bill the Aſsembly appoints Agents to transact Indian Buſineſs, who are to be under Oath to follow their Instructions: the Presents are to be distributed by the Aſsembly, and nothing is Aſsigned to the Governor but the Lycensing the Traders.

The Governor laid before the House the Plan of operations but they took no notice of it nor voted any Mony for that use. He likewise proposed to lay an Embargo on Flower and Provisions as well to stop supplies being sent from the west Indias to Martinica and thence to Cape Breton, as to lay in Stores for the use of the Army and our own Provinces and distreſsed fugitives. this they kept till the last Day and then sent a Negative Meſsage to it — An Act is paſsed and a very good one for the Dispersion and Subsistance of the Neutral French Copy of which is herewith sent.

Tho' they droned away all this precious time yet at the close they made an Ample Recompence by passing a Bill extending the Mutiny Act of Parliament and giving the Governor Power to appoint a Court Martial which is exemplified and likewise Printed and sent you. The Messages between Governor and Assembly are likewise Copied and in the Box.

Mr Clause was ordered home at the end of the Campaign and was on his way as far as New York in the beginning of January, but finding there Sr William Johnson and General Shirley they advised him to return with Mr Johnson and Assist at the Indian Treaty appointed to be held at his House on a Complaint against the Delawares, and having my leave he accordingly did so and on the 31st March he arrived here with Scarroyady Montour, Moses and Jonathan Cayanquiloquoa and his Wife who we thought were killed by the Enemy, and delivered to the Governor a kind Letter from Sir William Johnson with a Copy of the Treaty which is in the Box, as are the Minutes of what passed in Publick between the Governr. and these Indians. — Fatigue and fresh Fish of which the Indians are fond threw them into pleuritick Disorders, and they had like to have all dyed, but with the favour of Providence, one only dyed, a Warrior of Note and Brother to Conrad Weiser who was buried with the Honours of War.

Scarroyady and Montour declared in Conversation that they did not expect any good Effect would speedily arise from the Interposition of the Six Nations, or that the Delawares would at present be brought to desist, and advised us to hasten the building a Fort at Shamokin and to issue a Proclamation for Scalps which was done at the pressing Instance of all the Inhabitants (except strict Friends and they did not interpose till the Hatchet was put into the Hands of the Indians) and with the Approbation of the Indians. — Scarroyady at the Instance of the Onequagoes, Oneidos and Mohocks returns to the Six Nations to take upon him the place of oldest Councellor and Conductor of the Warriors and the few Indians who have resided here accompany him, but they one and all declare they will serve this Government faithfully & that they can do us more good as they are but few by making an Interest for us among the Six Nations than by staying here. and Scarroyady aſsures us that he and Montour as soon as ever the Council is over at Oswego will collect Parties of Warriors and come with them down Susquahannah to the Fort when built at Shamokin. Every Argument has been used to engage their stay, but truely their Reasons in favour of going are superior, provided they are really sincere and that this Step is not taken by the contrivance and Advice of Sr Wm Johnson in order to take off the Influence of this Province over the Indians from which alone he can expect to be rivalled and his measures obstructed whenever they appear unreasonable. I agree with you in your sentiments of Sr William Johnson and am glad you have wrote to him and think one or two Letters a Year to him highly neceſsary on your part. But believe me he will if he can engroſs all Indian Buſineſs and direct all their Councils and Influence and when Master of them without a rival he can hereafter make his Terms with this and the other Provinces. But at present it is not seasonable to infuse Jealousies of him or to give way to them in our own Breasts. we cannot do without the Six Nations and these must be attached to us by Scarroyady, Montour and other Indians who have resided here and tasted of our Bounty's and I am in hopes they will effectually do what they Promise as Jonathan has left his two Sons here and Andrew three Children. — Promises are made by the Governor to Scarroyady & Montour of the Rank and Pay of Captains which will secure their Return, and they will stand a fair chance to bring Numbers along with them who will be taken into Soldiers Pay and formed into Indian Companies. — When once the Fort is built at Shamokin I hope our matters will gradually recover, but it is a most intolerable thing that this Fort has not been built before now, as the Leaves will be out before the Four hundred Men destinated for this Service can set out, but the Governor and Commissioners were not willing to raise or send Forces until the Assembly should Pass an Act to put the Soldiers in the pay of the Province on the same foot with English Soldiers, and this not being to be obtained sooner, the Expedition could not go on sooner. — One Mr. Clapham a famous Indian Partizan in Novia Scotia and well recommended by Governor Lawrence and other Principal Men there and at Boston has the Command of this Regiment and will I hope turn out a very serviceable Man.

Last Post brought us from Sir Charles Hardy an Account of the Return of the Six Nation Deputies to Sir William Johnsons and that they had prevailed with the Delawares to make up with the English and to desist, which if true is joyful News but Sir William had not heard all they had to say, and I suppose was hindered by an Express from Oswego bringing us the sad News that, that Fort was invested by a large Number of French and Indians who had been before it fourteen hours when the Express came away, some letters say there were 2000 and some 1000 French and Indians — Coll. Broadstreet was within forty hours March of Oswego with 2000 Men principally Sailors and Batteau Men who were conveying Amunition and Stores to the Fort. Sir William Johnson set out imediately and I suppose coud not finish with the Deputies but took them along with him to the Aſsistance of Broadstreet. Sir Charles Hardy expreſses vast fear for Oswego. and with reason if, as it is said, there is not a Sufficiency of Amunition or Provisions in the Garrison. this Alarm is unfortunate as this Government cannot withdraw their Proclamation on an unfinished report. however Meſsengers Indian and English will be forthwith dispatched to the Delawares to find their real disposition and to procure a peace if Poſsible, but this can only be with the Susquahannah Delawares, for the Ohio Delawares as you will see by a Letter of Coll. Washingtons and some orders found in the Pocket of a French Officer who was killed in Virginia, are absolutely under the Direction of the French who command every small Scalping Parties. These Ohio Delawares are most unaccountably exasperated against the English and vow their utter Exterpation. and by several Informations are preparing to fall upon the Province with a large body of Indians Shawonese, Ottawawas Chippaways, Twendats and, as they say some of Twightwees but as to these last I do not believe any will join them, for as far as is come to my knowledge the Twightwees have been neutral, nor have any other Warriors engaged either with the French or Delawares, but what they may do is uncertain, as it cannot be otherwise but the Succeſs of the Delawares will make deep impreſsion on the Minds of the Young People and it may not be in the Power of the Old Men to detain them. I suppose you know that the Shawonese have an high Character among the Indians for Sense and Political Skill and are much consulted particularly by the Twightwees and as I hear nothing of their Hostilities I judge from thence that the Shawonese are not generally against us and therefore are not mentioned in the Proclamation nor rewards offered for their Scalps. — In January General Shirley's Letters went to the Governors of Virginia and North and South Carolina on the Plan mentioned in mine from New York of the 8th December to hold a joint Treaty with the Cherokees and to get their Warriors to join Us. but I have not heard one single word further about it. I suppose it was rendered unnecessary by some Steps that Governor Dinwiddie had taken in sending Commiss.rs into the Cherokee Country and it is said that they have obtained from the Cherokees a thousand of their Warriors and two hundred Catawbas to fight either by themselves or jointly with the Kings forces. In Winter One hundred Cherokees came into the Government of Virginia and an Expedition was concerted in conjunction with them against the Lower Shawonese Town, and by way of North Carolina news is come that they have had success, but I doubt the truth of it. — In the News Papers are to be found the fullest and truest Accounts of the Mischiefs and Murders done us by the Indians and of the State of our Frontier Counties and in general of that of our Provinces and therefore I have put up all from the twenty second January to the last Weeks Paper, having sent you them by two Conveyances already to that Date, and I shall henceforth take the Papers for you not for the sake of the Printer but for Intelligence which in them is best collected and will save much Writing. — Mr Armstrong is now in Town and says upon the Defeat of the Fifty Men at Sideling Hill of which you have an Account in the News Paper most of Cumberland County are in motion and unless some speedy and Vigorous measures be taken by the Legislature the Western side of Susquahannah will be totally deserted and not an Inhabitant left. the State of those Counties is best set forth in the report of the Gentlemen who were sent by the Governor to Lancaster where News was brought to the Government yt the back Inhabitants would Assemble and in a Body come down to Philadelphia and Address the Legislature their Report which is copied will give you a just Idea of the sad Condition of the Frontier Counties. and what may be expected in case Shingas and his Confederates fall upon the Province. and the Governor upon this report has summoned the Assembly to meet before the time to which they stood adjourned. As to the Forts over the blue Hills in Cumberland County tho they might be of infinate Service and are a great Terror and Discouragement to the Indians yet for want of a regular supply of Provisions and of Arms and Amunition the Garrisons can neither Scout nor range nor in case of Attack defend even their Forts. The Commissioners say they have found all Persons concern'd in a Confederacy to cheat the Province and to do no duty and are extreamly incensed against the Officers and Men on this Account and what will be done with the Forts whether burned or stronger Garrisons placed in them I cannot tell. The Commissioners are for ever complaining that the Money melts fast and does no good through the Dissoluteness, extortion Cowardice and backwardness of the People and this language disgusts every one for tho' it may be true yet such a Lamentation about it does but hurt the Publick cause.

The Governor has had a great deal of trouble with the Quakers whose addresses to him and the Assembly are in the News Paper. One good thing they have done with the Approbation of the Governor and Council, they have prevailed with Scarroyady to send two Six Nations Indians and some friendly Delawares at their own Expence to Wyomink with a Message from himself informing the Enemy Indians that there are in this Province some of the Descendants of those who came over with the first Proprietor who are Principled against War and these have let him know that they are ready to offer their Mediation to the Government for the Delawares if they will desist further Hostilities, collect the Prisoners they have taken from us and send them to a place to be appointed by the Governor with Assurances that they will deliver them up and sue for a Peace on such terms as shall be honourable and that he advises them to accept the offer of the Quakers and least they should think they have spilt too much Blood to be forgiven he has told them that these peaceable Inhabitants woud intercede and procure them a full Remission notwithstanding the vast Quantity of Blood spilt and Injury done. Israel Pemberton is enthusiastically persuaded that this measure will take Effect and bring about a Peace with the Susquahannah Indians and expresses great desire that the Governor might have the Honour to make a Peace before his Successor arrives. Passports are made out for the Indians and they go off to Morrow Morning.

The City is in infinite distraction all owing to the Officers of the Militia puffed up and now solely directed by Colonel Franklin most unseasonably and impolitically promoted to that Rank without any one reason to support the step that I ever heard, and the Church People in general are so poysoned by Franklin that they may prove even worse Enemies to the Proprietaries than the Quakers. To be sure, your matters are ten times worse in the City than ever and the Antiproprietary Party will gain more ground than ever by means of the Colonel who continues to evidence a most implacable Enmity against the Proprietors.

I have the pleasure to inform you that the Account I have before given of Oswego being invested proves to be without foundation a Letter from Mr William Alexander being this moment put into my hands that contradicts it and says that on the sixteenth Instant all was well at that Garrison and no Enemy seen.

Your steady friend Mr James Alexander dyed about a Month ago of a relapse of the Gout brought upon him by going out sooner than he should have done. His Death is a great loss to the Publick and to the Proprietors in particular. The Hearing before the Council of Proprietors at Amboy about the Tract of 5000 Acres Surveyed on the Eastern side of the line and because not Recorded lately attempted to be taken up on an Eastern Right was put off because Mr Alexander was sick and could not attend. Mr Gardner and I went to Amboy to confer with Mr Jonathan Hampton your agent. He has had for some time our directions to offer ~~Lands~~ to sale all the Proprietary Tracts in the Counties of Hunterdon & Morris &c upon reasonable prices being offered to write to us that we might judge of the Terms and if we approve order Agreements to be made paying down one quarter in Hand. He had procure chasers for one fourth of your Lands who were preparing to pay the first Payment but have demurr'd on these Indian Incursions and I know not whether we can sell any of the Lands now tho' eight Months ago we were in a fair way to sell all. He told us some would buy yet and would bring in their Money but I see none come. We have retained Mr Ogdon to defend the 3000 Acres before the Council and to give him the more weight and because Publick Affairs will not admit my presence at that Board by the advice of the Governor we have given him a Power of Attorney or Substitution to appear for you at the Council and I hope by his Judgment and Influence he will be able to help you out of this sad Scrape.

There are but a very few Houses left in the Upper part of Northampton County beyond Nazareth, but the Indians having not done much Mischief there for some time past nor in Berks or Lancaster Counties I am in hopes the former owners of ye Land in those several Counties will return to it and put up their Fences and preserve and reap the Grain in the Ground if they do not put in their Summer grain. It looks likely that the Susquahannah Delawares are gone either to the Ohio or to Diahogo and I flatter my self it is to the last and that the Deputies of the Six Nations who Summoned them to meet there have had an Influence over them and Obliged them to desist Hostilities. This would be a great deal in our favour but if this should be true the West side of Susquahannah will still be harrassed and I am afraid deserted. — Mr Hockley informs you that the very Advertisement you have proposed about People in Arrear for Quit Rent was published and put up.

up at the Court Houses, Churches and Meetings of the several Counties which had some Effect, and afterwards before the annual stated time of recovering a second Advertisement was likewise published and that before your Letter arrived. Mr Chew had been consulted. I will add the Sheriffs have been employd to distrain and that it will be done imediately.

Mr Hockley by Advice has pursued the plain laid down by you as to the Payments in virtue of your order for £5000 and will punctually continue to do so.

Colony Expeditions tho I find not approved by you must notwithstanding we are so unfit to conduct them be the means to reduce the French and Indians and we should have been now engaged in their Execution and for want of something of this sort your Province will be destroyd Inch by Inch and a Multitude of Industrious and Substantial Farmers will become Bankrupts and beggers and tho destitute of every comfort of Life will not find any adequate Relief the Burden being too great for the remainder of the Inhabitants but must either quit these Colonies or enlist in the Soldiery.

I am glad to hear the Offer of Lands is considered ~~by~~ in a nother manner by the Ministry then by our Assembly and their Partizans, but all here is Madness, Malice & folly.

Publick Business now crowds upon the Governor and absolutely requires two Secretarys and three or four Clarks to do it with care and dispatch but nothing is allowed for this additional trouble and consequently it is ill done, for I cannot afford to hire Clarks and the Governor will

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never was injustice practised to Publick Officers more barefaced than now.

The Indians who are extreamly troublesome and perpetually with me will not suffer me to write so much as I ought and incline to do. I must therefore leave off and refer you to my next for other things which will go by a Vessel that sails in ten Days for Bristol.

I am

Honoured Proprietor

Your most obedient

humble servant

[illegible]

26 Apr
What is mentioned above
the Quakers application to
[illegible] has raised another
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
humbly [illegible] [illegible]
& [illegible] [illegible] explanations
[illegible] in my next

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the Province [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Proclamation [illegible] between Gov. & [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] two [illegible] months.

1st Whether it is proper that such a Meſsage should be allowed to be sent by Friends, in order to mediate a Peace with the Indians? and if so,

2dly Whether such an one as is proposed, or any other?

3dly Whether this Government should appear to countenance the Meſsage, and how far, and in what Manner; or if it should only tacitly allow of such a Meſsage being sent by Friends, as an Application of their own, and as an Affair entirely of a private Nature?

4thly Whether there is not Reason to fear, that this Meſsage being sent before the proposed Expedition to build a Fort at Shamokin, is carried into Execution, may not be attended with ill Consequences, in apprizing the Enemy Indians of our Design, and if they happen not to be well disposed for a Peace, may they not obstruct or harraſs our Forces in their March to Shamokin?

5thly Whether he shall give any private Orders to the Meſsengers to bring back with them Paxinosa, or other friendly Indians of the Shawonese &c? that may be inclined to leave the Sasquehannah, and live under our Protection among the Inhabitants; and if such Meſsage be approved, then the Signals and the Way of their Return must be settled?

The Council were long in their Consideration, and advised the Governor not to interest the Government any way in such a Meſsage, but to leave it entirely to Friends— That it might be well enough to acquaint the Meſsengers, if they should see Paxinosa, or any other friendly Indians to aſsure them of our Affection to them, and Willingneſs to give them a kind Reception, and to persuade them to come with them.

The Signal agreed upon was a small Union Flag to be carried on high on a Pole by the Indians.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Monday the 26th April 1756.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell William Logan } Esquires
Joseph Turner Richard Peters }

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor informed the Council, that Newcastle, Jagrea and William Lacquis came to him this morning, as he thought to take their Leave of him, their Guides and Paſsports having been prepared, and the Men ready to set out who were to guard them thro the Inhabitants; but to his Surprise they made the following Speech to him.

Brother the Governor,

The other day it was agreed between Scarroyady and some other of our Indians on one Part, and some of the good People of this Town on the other Part, that we three should go with a Meſsage from Scarroyady to our Cousins the Delawares at Wyomink; but as Scarroyady never consulted us beforehand, and took upon him in too peremptory a Manner, to order us to go, we now come to acquaint the Governor, that he had no Right to do this, we are not his Vaſsals, nor to be treated in so haughty a Manner; and therefore we tell the Governor, that we will not carry any of Scarroyady's Meſsages. If the Governor has anything to say to us, we will hear what he says, and if he desires us to go, and will tell us what to say when we come there, we will go and deliver faithfully the Governor's Meſsage; but we will not go on Scarroyady's Errands.

In Reply the Governor told the Indians, that he understood it was a Point agreed upon between the Indians and some of the principal Quakers, that Newcastle and the other Two should go to Wyomink, and, in the Name of Scarroyady, carry a Meſsage to the Enemy Delawares, dictated by the Quakers, full of good Advice, and very proper for People of their peaceable Persuasion, and that this Change of their Mind was a Surprize upon him; but if they were determined not to go, he had no Power over them.

He added that he had received some Advices which he would communicate to them, as soon as he should have consulted his Council, and he would call them to meet this Forenoon.

The Governor then ordered Sir Charles Hardy's Letter of the Sixteenth of April to be read, which being done, he told the Council, that he had communicated it to Mr. Weiser; and he to Scarroyady and Montour, who seemed very much pleased with the News, and were desirous to hasten their Journey, that they might aſsist Sir William Johnson to bring this Matter to such an Iſsue, as might induce this Government to suspend Hostilities; but Mr. Weiser, by their Advice, said, that, for the present, it might not be proper to take any publick Notice of it, but to continue in the way proposed by the Declaration, which woud have a good Effect, and make the Delawares more in earnest to sue for a Peace. The Governor said further, that now he proposed to impart the Contents of this Letter to Newcastle and the other Indians, and to send them to Wyomink with a Meſsage to notify this Transaction to the Delawares there, and desired the Council's Advice about it, and what sort of a Meſsage might be proper to send; the Governor added, that, to aſsist them in their Councils, he had ordered Mr. Weiser to attend, who, being called in, was desired to give his Sentiments upon this new Turn of Affairs, and what was proper to be done, as well with respect to the Six Nations as to the Enemy Delawares, observing, that, considering how Matters had turnd out, it was unfortunate to have published the Declaration of War.

Mr. Weiser said, he had had a good deal of Conversation with Scarroyady, Montour and Jonathan about the Declaration of War before it iſsued, aſsuring them, that the Government depended upon their Judgment very much as to this Step, and were put upon it by being so often reproached by Scarroyady and the other Indians; and they advised it as a Step absolutely neceſsary to bring the Delawares to their Senses, and said it would be perfectly agreeable to the Six Nations, and reminded him of what paſsed at the Council on this Subject, vizt. that the Chief Speaker of the Senecas had expreſsed himself, as if the English should do nothing till they had tried their Influence with the Delawares, and that he stood up in Council, and most vehemently opposed this Advice, declaring and proving to the Council, that the Delawares were the Aggreſsors, and had killed Numbers of the English, who, notwithstanding this, were sitting with their Heads bent to their Knees; that before he left them, he advised them to strike, and to put the Hatchet into the Hands of the Friendly Indians on Sasquehannah, and before he came away he demanded the Hatchet to be put into his own Hands. That, notwithstanding this, they contented themselves with acting on the defensive, and laying their Complaints before the Six Nations, alledging, they were answerable for the Hostilities of the Delawares, who were their Subjects, and expected they would call them off, and punish them severely; whereupon the Council approved Scarroyady's Opinion, and said the English should fight, and never cease Hostilities, until the Delawares were brought to make Peace, and delivered over their Prisoners— And Scarroyady was very sure the Six Nations would not take it amiſs, that Rewards were offered for the Scalps of the Delawares.

That these Discourses being held previous to the Declaration of War, he was aſsured the Six Nations would approve it; but advised a Meſsage should be sent to the Enemy Delawares by Newcastle, to make them acquainted with what had paſsed at Otsiningo, to know if they were apprized of it, and were Parties to it, and what Conduct they did now, or would for the future, observe to the English, till Terms of Peace were agreed upon. And that at the same Time the Governor might let Paxinosa know, that he and any of the Indians who had continued true to the English woud be very welcome, if they enclined to come into the Province.

THE Council considered the Matter well, and advised the Governor to send such a Meſsage, and in the Afternoon to send for Newcastle, Jagrea and William Lacquis, and desired Mr. Spangenberg might be present.

At a Council held at Philadelphia Monday the 26th: April 1756. P.M.

Present

The Honourable Robert Hunter Morris Esquire Lieutenant Governor.

William Logan } Esquires
Richard Peters }

Newcastle
Jagrea
William Sacquis

Mr. Spangenberg
Mr. Weiser

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The following Speech was made to the Indians by the Governor.

Brethren,

I told you in the morning I had something to communicate to you, and it is this.

I have received an Account from Sir William Johnson, sent me by Sir Charles Hardy, Governor of New York, that, immediately after the Council held at Fort Johnson, Deputies were dispatched by the Six Nations to Otsaningo, and that they convened the Delawares, Shawnese, and other Indians from the several Towns on the Sasquehannah, to the Number of 300, to whom they delivered Meſsages from that Council, blaming them for taking the Hatchet against their Brethren the English, and commanding them to lay it down immediately, and that they had hearkened to this Meſsage, and agreed to strike no more. What I tell you is in this Letter, (here the Governor gave Mr. Weiser Sir Charles Hardy's Letter of the 16th: of April to translate to them) and when he had made them understand what Sir Charles Hardy had wrote, the Governor took a Belt in his Hand, and proceeded.

Brethren,

I think it neceſsary, that the Indians at Wyomink, as well Enemies as Friends, should know, that Sir Charles Hardy has sent me this Account from Sir William Johnson; and as two of you are of the Six Nations, and one a Delaware, I think it is proper that you should undertake to notify this to them, and, at the same Time to let them know, as from yourselves, that if they are sincerely disposed to Peace, and will deliver up the English Prisoners to the Six Nations, and hearken to their Advice, in laying down the Hatchet, and abide by such Terms as shall be agreed on, you can venture to aſsure them, that tho' much Blood has been spilt, and that the English, in Resentment of this, are well prepared to avenge themselves, yet, they have so great a Regard to the Six Nations, that it will be in their Power to persuade the English not to prosecute the War, but to accept fair, just and honourable Terms; and I provide you with this Belt to deliver it to them with such a Speech.

Brethren,

I speak my own sincere Inclinations when I say, I am for Peace, and not only my own, but the Sentiments of Others, and particularly the earnest Desires of a great Number of People, who are the Descendents of those that came over with the first Proprietor; all those are extremely desirous to interpose with the Government, to receive the Submiſsion of the Delawares, and to overlook what is past, and establish for the future a firm and lasting Agreement, Peace and Affection between us, and have repeatedly applied to me for this Purpose.

Brethren,

As many Stories have been told to the Indians to our Prejudice, I desire you will undeceive them, and particularly I charge William Lacquis to acquaint the Delawares, that those of their Tribe who live amongst us have not had any Miſchief done to them, but are treated with our usual Kindneſs, and are at Liberty, and live in Peace and Plenty among us. I charge you William Lacquis to declare the Truth to the Indians, and to aſsure them that they have been imposed on, and do you relate the Care that has been taken, as well by the Government of New Jersey as this, of all the Indians who have staid with us, and that they enjoy our Protection and live as happily as ever. A String.

Brethren,

Paxanosa and some other Shawonese and other Indians have not broke Faith with us, but endeavoured to diſsuade the Delawares from striking us. When they could not succeed, they separated from them, and now live together in some Place near Wyomink. I would have you go to them, and let them likewise know this Account from Sir William Johnson, and aſsure them from me, that if they are enclined to come within the Inhabitants, you have my Orders to conduct them, or if they do not incline to come now, but at any other Time, they will, on sending me a Meſsage, be provided with a safe Conduct, and meet with a hearty Welcome. Let them know that Scarroyady related to me what paſsed between him and them, and that Aroas and David have likewise made me acquainted with what was said by them, when they were last at Wyoming.

Then the Governor gave them a String to give to Paxanosa.

Newcastle, Jagrea and William Lacquis returned the Governor an Answer, vizt. that the Meſsages were very good, and what they approved mightily, and would undertake the Journey, and deliver them faithfully; but then they must desire the Governor would make their Apology to Colo. Clapham, and tell him that nothing but the Governor's Commands would have induced them to delay their coming to him.

The Governor promised he would, and then told them, that Mr. Spangenberg was desired to be present, having some Delaware Indians under his Care, that he might hear what was delivered to them; He desired they would go by way of Bethlehem, and take with them one or more of the Indians there, and that Mr. Spangenberg would prepare those Indians for their Visit, and persuade some of them to accompany them to Wyomink.

Memorandum. The Governor on the twenty eighth of April wrote a Letter to General Shirley, to request One Thousand Arms, having heard that Ten Thousand were arrived at Boston for the Defence of the Colonies; this he did at the Instance of the Commiſsioners, and the Letter was sent by Expreſs, and is as follows.

Philadelphia 28th: April 1756.

Sir

As the Province is in the utmost Distreſs for want of Arms, the few we have being miserably bad, and those ordered from England not arrived, the Commiſsioners for laying out the Sixty Thousand Pounds have desired me to represent this to your Excellency by Expreſs, and, having received Information of the Arrival of a large Quantity of Arms at Boston, to request of you that they may in their Great Exigency be favoured with a thousand or something less, if so many cannot be spared, and that you would be pleased to give your Orders for that Purpose to those who have the Charge of them. No Province I aſsure your Excellency can want a Supply of Arms so much as this, apprehensive as we are of an Attack from the Ohio every Day, and as I hope these Arms are graciously sent by his Majesty, for the Defence of the Colonies, I can rely on your Excellency's Goodneſs to extend this Favour, and to iſsue your Orders by the Bearer, who will go with all Dispatch to Boston with them, and pay the Charges of shipping. But if they are come under such Circumstances that they must be paid for, if the Persons who have the Charge of them will signify to me in what Mode they would chuse to be paid, I will immediately order the Payment, as they shall direct, with the utmost Punctuality.

It gives me no small Concern, that my Affairs here will not permit me to wait on you at New York.

I am setting out for the Frontiers, in order to hasten away the Forces that are designed for Shamokin. I am

Sir
Your Excellency's
most obedient humble Servant
Robt. H: Morris

Mr. Peters wrote by the Expreſs to Mr. William Alexander, Captain Morris

The Signal agreed upon was a small Union Flag to be carried on high on a Pole by the Indians.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Monday the 26th April, 1756.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esquire, Lieutenant Governor.

Robert Strettell,	William Logan,	Esquires.
Joseph Turner,	Richard Peters,	

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The Governor informed the Council that Newcastle, Jagrea, and William Lacquis came to him this morning, as he thought to take their Leave of him, their Guides and Passports having been prepared, and the Men ready to set out who were to guard them thro' the Inhabitants; but to his Surprize they made the following Speech to him:

"Brother the Governor:

"The other day it was agreed between Scarroyady and some other of our Indians on one Part, and some of the good People of this Town on the other Part, that we three should go with a Message from Scarroyady to our Cousins, the Delawares, at Wyomink; but as Scarroyady never consulted us before hand, and took upon him in too peremptory a Manner to order us to go, we now come to acquaint the Governor that he had no Right to do this: we are not his Vassals, nor to be treated in so haughty a Manner; and, therefore, we tell the Governor that we will not carry any of Scarroyady's Messages. If the Governor has anything to say to us we will hear what he says, and if he desires us to go, and will tell us what to say when we come there, we will go and deliver faithfully the Governor's Message; but we will not go on Scarroyady's Errands."

In reply the Governor told the Indians that he understood it was a Point agreed upon between the Indians and some of the principal Quakers that Newcastle and the other Two should go to Wyomink, and in the name of Scarroyady carry a Message to the Enemy Delawares, dictated by the Quakers, full of good advice, and very proper for People of their Peaceable Persuasion, and that this change of their mind was a surprize upon him; but if they were determined not to go he had no Power over them.

He added that he had received some advices which he would communicate to them as soon as he should have consulted his Council, and he would call them to meet this Forenoon.

The Governor then ordered Sir Charles Hardy's Letter of the Sixteenth of April to be read, which being done, he told the Council that he had communicated to Mr. Weiser, and he to Scarroyady and Montour, who seemed very much pleased with the News, and were desirous to hasten their Journey that they might assist Sir William Johnson to bring this Matter to such an Issue as might induce this Government to Suspend Hostilities; but Mr. Weiser by their advice, said that for the present it might not be proper to take any publick notice of it, but to continue in the way proposed by the Declaration, which wou'd have a good effect, and make the Delawares more in earnest to sue for a Peace. The Governor said further, that now he proposed to impart the Contents of this Letter to Newcastle and the other Indians, and to send them to Wyomink with a Message to notify this Transaction to the Delawares there, and desired the Council's advice about it, and what sort of a Message might be proper to send. The Governor added, that to assist them in their Counsels he had ordered Mr. Weiser to attend, who, being called in, was desired to give his Sentiment upon this new Turn of affairs, and what was proper to be done, as well with respect to the Six Nations as to the Enemy Delawares, observing that, considering how matters had turned out, it was unfortunate to have published the Declaration of War.

Mr. Weiser said he had a good deal of Conversation with Scarrowyady, Montour, and Jonathan, about the Declaration of War before it issued, assuring them that the Government depended upon their Judgment very much as to this Step, and were put upon it by being so often reproached by Scarroyady and the other Indians, and they advised it as a Step absolutely necessary to bring the Delawares to their Senses, and said it would be perfectly agreeable to the Six Nations, and reminded him of what passed at the Council on this Subject, vis': that the Chief Speaker of the Senecas had expressed himself as if the English should do nothing till they had tried their Influence with the Delawares; and that he stood up in Council and most vehemently opposed this advice declaring and proving to the Council, that the Delawares were the aggressors, and had killed numbers of the English, who, notwithstanding this, were sitting with their Heads bent to their knees; that before he left them he advised them to strike and to put the Hatchet into the Hands of the Friendly Indians on Sasquehannah, and before he came away, he demanded the Hatchet to be put into his own Hands. That notwithstanding this, they contented themselves with acting on the defensive, and laying their Complaints before the Six Nations, alledging they were answerable for the Hostilities of the Delawares, who were their Subjects, and expected they would call them off and punish them severely; whereupon the Council approved Scarroyady's Opinion, and said the English should fight, and never cease Hostilities until the Delawares were brought to make Peace and delivered over their Prisoners. And Scarroyady was very sure the Six nations would not take it amiss that Rewards were offered for the Scalps of the Delawares.

That these Discourses being held previous to the Declaration of War, he was assured the Six Nations would approve it; but advised a Message should be sent to the Enemy, Delawares, by Newcastle, to make them acquainted with what had passed at Otsiningo, to know if they were apprized of it and were Parties to it, and what conduct they did now, or would for the future observe to the English, till Terms of Peace were agreed upon; and that at the same Time the Governor might let Paxinosa know, that he, and any of the Indians who had continued true to the English, wou'd be very welcome if they enclined to come into the Province.

The Council considered the Matter well and advised the Governor to send such a Message, and in the afternoon to send for Newcastle, Jagrea, and William Lacquis, and desired Mr. Spangenberg might be present.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Monday the 26th April, 1756, P. M.

PRESENT:

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, Esqr., Lieutenant Governor.

William Logan, } Esquires.
Richard Peters, }
Newcastle,
Jagrea,
William Lacquis.
Mr. Spangenberg,
Mr. Weiser.

The Minutes of the preceding Council were read and approved.

The following Speech was made to the Indians by the Governor:

"Brethren:

"I told you in the morning I had something to communicate to you, and it is this.

"I have received an account from Sir William Johnson, sent me by Sir Charles Hardy, Governor of New York, that, immediately after the Council held at Fort Johnson, Deputies were dispatched by the Six Nations to Otsaningo, and that they convened the Delawares, Shawonese, and other Indians, from the Several Towns on the Sasquehannah, to the number of 300, to whom they delivered Messages from that Council, blaming them for taking the Hatchet against their Brethren, the English, and commanding them to lay it down immediately, and that they had hearkened to this Message and agreed to strike no more. What I tell you is in this Letter" (here the Governor gave Mr. Weiser Sir Charles Hardy's Letter

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William Lacquis.

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"Brethren:

"I think it necessary that the Indians at Wyomink, as well Enemies as Friends, should know that Sir Charles Hardy has sent me this account from Sir William Johnson, and as two of you are of the Six Nations and one a Delaware, I think it is proper that you should undertake to notify this to them, and, at the same Time to let them know, as from yourselves, that if they are sincerely disposed to Peace, and will deliver up the English Prisoners to the Six Nations, and hearken to their advice in laying down the Hatchet, and abide by such Terms as shall be agreed on, you can venture to assure them, that tho' much Blood has been spilt, and that the English, in Resentment of this, are well prepared to avenge themselves, yet they have so great a Regard to the Six Nations that it will be in their Power to persuade the English not to prosecute the War, but to accept fair, Just, and honourable Terms, and I provide you with this Belt to deliver it to them with such a Speech.

"Brethren:

"I speak my own sincere Inclinations when I say I am for Peace, and not only my own but the Sentiments of Others, and particularly the earnest Desires of a great number of People who are the Descendents of those that came over with the first Proprietor; all those are extremely desirous to interpose with the Government to receive the Submission of the Delawares, and to overlook what is past, and establish for the future a firm and lasting agreement, Peace, and affection between us, and have repeatedly applied to me for this Purpose.

"Brethren:

"As many Stories have been told to the Indians to our Prejudice, I desire you will undeceive them, and particularly I charge William Lacquis to acquaint the Delawares, that those of their Tribe who live amongst us have not had any Mischief done to them, but are treated with our usual kindness, and are at Liberty, and live in Peace and Plenty among us. I charge you, William Lacquis, to declare the Truth to the Indians, and to assure them that they have been imposed on, and do you relate the Care that has been taken, as well by the Government of New Jersey as this, of all the Indians who have staid with us, and that they enjoy our Protection and live as happily as ever."

A String.

"Brethren:

"Paxinosa, and some other Shawonese and other Indians, have not broke Faith with us, but endeavour to dissuade the Delawares from striking us. When they could not succeed they separated from them, and now live together in some Place near Wyomink. I would have you go to them and let them likewise know this account from Sir William Johnson, and assure them from me, that if they are enclined to come within the Inhabitants, you have my orders to conduct them, or if they do not incline to come now, but at any other Time, they will, on sending me a message, be provided with a safe Conduct and meet with a hearty Welcome. Let them know that Scarroyady related to me what passed between him and them, and that Aroas and David have likewise made me acquainted with what was said by them when they were last at Wyoming."

Then the Governor gave them a String to give to Paxanosa.

Newcastle, Jagrea, and William Lacquis, returned the Governor an answer, vist.: That the Messages were very good, and what they approved mightly, and would undertake the Journey and deliver them faithfully; but then they must desire the Governor would make their Apology to Col. Clapham, and tell him that nothing but the Governor's Commands would have induced them to delay their coming to him.

The Governor promised he would, and then told them that Mr. Spangenberg was desired to be present, having some Delaware Indians under his care, that he might hear what was delivered to them. He desir'd they wou'd go by way of Bethlehem, and take with them one or more of the Indians there, and that Mr. Spangenberg would prepare those Indians for their visit, and persuade some of them to accompany them to Wyomink.

MEMORANDUM.

The Governor, on the twenty-eight of April, wrote a Letter to General Shirley to request One Thousand Arms, having heard that Ten Thousand were arrived at Boston for the Defence of the Colonies; this he did at the Instance of the Commissioners, and the Letter was sent by Express, and is as follows:

"PHILADELPHIA, 28th April, 1756.

"Sir:

"As the Province is in the utmost Distress for want of Arms, the few we have being miserably bad, and those ordered from England not arrived, the Commissioners for laying out the Sixty Thousand Pounds have desired me to represent this to your Excellency by express, and having received Information of the Arrival of a large Quantity of Arms at Boston, to request of you that they may in their Great Exigency be favored with a thousand, or something less if so many cannot be spared, and that you would

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the English Prisoners to the Six Nations, and hearken to the
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Terms as shall be agreed on, You can venture to assure
them, that though much Blood has been spilt, and that
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ians for their Visit, and perswade some of them to
company them to Wyomink.

A true Copy
Richard Peters
Secretary.

A true Copy Examined by
Benj.a Barons
Secretary.

A Message from the Governor to the Susquehannah Indians by Newcastle, Jagrea and William Locquis delivered in Council 26th April 1756

Brethren

I have receiv'd an Account from Sir William Johnson sent me by Sir Charles Hardy Governor of New York that immediately after the Council held at Fort Johnson Deputies were dispatched by the Six Nations to Otsaningo, and that they convened the Delawares Shawanese and other Indians from the several Towns on the Susquehannah to the number of one hundred to whom they delivered Messages from that Council blaming them for taking the Hatchet against their Brethren the English, and commanding them to lay it down immediately and that they had hearkened to the Message and agreed to strike no more. What I tell you is in this Letter

Here the Governor gave Mr. Weiser Sir Charles Hardy's Letter of the 16th of April to translate to them and when he had made them understand what Sir Charles Hardy had wrote the Governor took a Belt in his hand and proceeded.

Brethren

I think it necessary that the Indians at Wyoming as well Enemies as Friends should know that Sir Charles Hardy has sent this account to me from Sir William Johnson and as two of you are of the Six Nations and one a Delaware I think it is proper that you should undertake to carry this to them and at the same time to let them know as from yourselves that if they are sincerely disposed to Peace, and will deliver up the English Prisoners to the Six Nations and hearken to their Advice in laying down the Hatchet and abide by such Terms as shall be agreed on, you can venture to assure them that tho' much Blood has been spilt and that the English in resentment of this are now prepared to avenge themselves, yet they have so great a regard to the Six Nations, that it will be in their Power to persuade the English not to prosecute the War, but to accept fair and just and honourable Terms. and I present you with this Belt, to deliver it to them with such a Speech.

Brethren

I speak my own sincere Inclination when I say, I am for Peace and not only my own but the Sentiments of others, and particularly the earnest Desires of a number of People who are the Descendants of those that came over with the first Proprietor, all these are extremely desirous to intercede with the Government to receive the Submission of the Delawares and to overlook what is past, and establish for the future a firm and lasting agreement, peace and affection between us, and have repeatedly applied to me for this Purpose.

Brethren

As many Stories have been told to the Indians to our prejudice, I desire you will undeceive them, and particularly I charge William Lacquis to acquaint the Delawares that those of their Tribe who live among us have not had any mischief done to them but are treated with the utmost Kindness, and are at Liberty and live in peace and plenty amongst us. I charge you William to bear this String to the Indians, and to assure them that they have been imposed upon, and likewise the care that has been taken as well by the Government of New Jersey as this of all the Indians who have staid with us and that they enjoy our Protection and live as happily as ever.

A String

Brethren

Paxinosa and some other Shawanese and other Indians have not broke with us, but endeavoured to dissuade the Delawares from striking us. When they could not succeed they separated from them, and now live together in some place near Wyoming. I would have you go to them and let them likewise know this account from Sir William Johnson and assure them from me that if they are inclined to come within the Inhabitants you have my orders to bring them, or if they do not incline to come now, but at any other time, they will on sending me a Message be provided with a safe conduct and met with an hearty Welcome. Let them know that Scarrooyady related to me what passed between him and them, and that Aroas and David have likewise made me acquainted with what was said by them when they were left at Wyoming

Then the Governor gave them a String to give to Paxinosa.

Newcastle, Jagrea, and William Lacquis returned the Governor an Answer that the Messages were very good and what they approved mightily, and would undertake the Journey and deliver them faithfully, but then they must desire the Governor would make their Apology to Colo Johnson and to tell him that nothing but the Governors Commands would have induced them to delay their coming to him—

The Governor promised he would, and then told them, that Mr Spangenberg desired to be present, having some Delaware Indians under his Care that he might hear what was delivered to them. He desired they would go by way of Bethlehem and take with them one or more of the Indians there and that— Mr Spangenberg would prepare those Indians for their Visit, and persuade some of them to accompany them to Wyoming.

32

Message from the [illegible]

to the Susquehannah [illegible]

26 April 1756,

MINUTES

OF

CONFERENCES,

HELD WITH THE

INDIANS, at *EASTON*,

In the Months of *July* and *November*, 1756;

TOGETHER WITH

Two MESSAGES ſent by the GOVERNMENT to the *Indians* reſiding on *Saſquehannah*; and the REPORT of the COMMITTEE appointed by the ASSEMBLY to attend the GOVERNOR at the laſt of the ſaid Conferences.

PHILADELPHIA:
Printed and Sold by B. FRANKLIN, and D. HALL, at the
New-Printing-Office, near the Market. MDCCLVII.

MINUTES

OF

CONFERENCES, &c.

PHILADELPHIA.

After the Ending of the Conferences between Scarroyady *and ſome of the People called* Quakers, *the three* Indians, Newcaſtle, Jagrea, *and* William Locquies, *being prepared to ſet out for* Wioming, *the Governor (who, during theſe Conferences, received Meſſages from the Governor of* New-York) *delivered them the following Meſſage to the* Delaware *and* Shawaneſe Indians, *living on* Saſquehannah, *viz.*

BRETHREN, *April* 26, 1756.

I HAVE received an Account from Sir *William Johnſon*, ſent me by Sir *Charles Hardy*, Governor of *New-York*, that, immediately after the Council held at *Fort Johnſon*, Deputies were diſpatched by the *Six Nations* to *Atſaningo*, and that they convened the *Delawares*, *Shawaneſe*, and other *Indians*, from the ſeveral Towns on the *Saſquehannah*, to the Number of Three Hundred, to whom they delivered Meſſages from that Council, blaming them for taking up the Hatchet againſt their Brethren the *Engliſh*, and commanding them to lay it down immediately; and that they had hearkened to this Meſſage, and agreed to ſtrike no more.-----What I tell you is in this Letter: [*Here the Governor gave Mr.* Weiſer *Sir* Charles Hardy'*s Letter of the* 16*th of* April, *to interpret to them. And when he had made them underſtand what Sir* Charles Hardy *had wrote, the Governor took a Belt in his Hand, and proceeded.*] 1756.

Brethren,

I think it neceſſary that the *Indians* at *Wioming*, as well Enemies as Friends, ſhould know, that Sir *Charles Hardy* has ſent this Account to me from Sir *William Johnſon*; and as two of you are of the *Six Nations*, and one a *Delaware*, I think it proper that you ſhould undertake to notify this to them; and at the ſame Time to let them know, as from yourſelves, that if they are ſincerely diſpoſed to Peace, and will deliver up the *Engliſh* Priſoners to the *Six Nations*, and hearken to their Advice in laying down the Hatchet, and abide by ſuch Terms as ſhall be agreed on, you can venture to aſſure them; that tho' much Blood has been ſpilt, and that the *Engliſh*, in Reſentment of this, are well prepared to avenge themſelves, yet they have ſo great Regard for the *Six Nations*, that it will be in their Power to perſwade the *Engliſh* not to proſecute the War, but to accept fair, juſt and honourable Terms; and I provide you with this Belt, to deliver it to them with ſuch a Speech.

Brethren,

I ſpeak my own ſincere Inclinations, when I ſay I am for Peace; and not only my own, but the Sentiments of others, and particularly the earneſt Deſire of a Number of People, who are the Deſcendants of thoſe that came over with the firſt Proprietor; all thoſe are extremely deſirous to interpoſe with the Government, to receive the Submiſſion of the *Delawares*, and to overlook what is paſt, and eſtabliſh for the future a firm and laſting Agreement, Peace and Affection between us, and have repeatedly applied to me for this Purpoſe.

Brethren,

As many Stories have been told to the *Indians* to our Prejudice, I deſire you will undeceive them; and particularly I do charge *William Locquies* to acquaint the *Delawares*, that thoſe of their Tribe who live among us, have not had any Miſchief done them, but are treated with our uſual Kindneſs, and are at Liberty, and live in Peace and Plenty among us.-----I charge you *William Locquies*, to declare the Truth to the *Indians*, and to aſſure

1756. them that they have been impoſed on; and relate the Care that has been taken, as well by the Government of *New-Jerſey*, as this, of all the *Indians* who have ſtaid with us, and that they enjoy our Protection, and live as happily as ever.

A String.

Brethren,

Paxinoſa, and ſome other *Shawaneſe*, and other *Indians*, have not broke Faith with us, but endeavoured to diſſuade the *Delawares* from ſtriking us.——When they could not ſucceed, they ſeparated from them, and now live together in ſome Place near *Wioming*; I would have you go to them, and let them likewiſe know this Account from Sir *William Johnſon*, and aſſure them from me, that if they are inclined to come within the Inhabitants, you have my Orders to conduct them; or if they do not incline to come now, but at any other Time, they will, on ſending me a Meſſage, be provided with a ſafe Conduct, and meet with an hearty Welcome.---Let them know that *Scarroyady* related to me what had paſſed between him and them; and that *Aroas* and *David* have likewiſe made me acquainted with what was ſaid by them when they were laſt at *Wioming*.

Then the Governor gave them a String to give to Paxinoſa.

Newcaſtle, Jagrea, *and* William Locquies, *returned the Governor an Anſwer*, viz.

That the Meſſages were very good, and what they approved mightily, and would undertake the Journey, and deliver them faithfully; but then they muſt deſire the Governor would make their Apology to Colonel *Clapham*, and tell him, that nothing but the Governor's Commands would have induced them to delay their coming to him.

The Governor promiſed he would; and then told them, that Mr. *Spangenberg* was deſired to be preſent, having ſome *Delaware Indians* under his Care, that he might hear what was delivered to them.----He deſired they would go by Way of *Bethlehem*, and take with them one or more of the *Indians* there, and that Mr. *Spangenberg* would prepare thoſe *Indians* for their Viſit, and perſwade ſome of them to accompany them to *Wioming*.

The Meſſengers returned, and on the 31ſt of *May*, 1756, made the following Report, *viz. That on their Arrival at* Wioming, *they found the* Indians *had left the Town, and gone up the River; they therefore proceeded to* Teaogon, *where they met with a great Number of* Indians, *and informed them they had brought a Meſſage from the Governor of* Pennſylvania, *and deſired a Meeting of all their People in that Town and near it; which being obtained in two Days, they then delivered their Meſſage.——After which*, Paxinoſa, *as Speaker of their Council, returned the following Anſwer*, viz.

Brethren, The Governor, and People of Pennſylvania,

THE dark Clouds overſpread our Country ſo ſuddenly, that we have been all at once ſeparated, and that dark Cloud got in between us; and as it has pleaſed the moſt High to diſpel it a little, ſo that we can juſt ſee one another again, our Eyes are now running with Tears, becauſe of the melancholy Sight of ſeeing our Country covered with our own Blood (we mean yours and ours.) Give me Leave to wipe off the Tears from your Eyes, though at the ſame Time my own Eyes run with Tears in Abundance for what has paſſed.

Gave a String.

Brethren,

As you came a great Way, and through dangerous Places, where evil Spirits reign, who might have put ſeveral Things in your Way to obſtruct your Buſineſs, this String ſerves to clear your Mind, and the Paſſage from your Heart to your Mouth, that you may ſpeak freely to us.

Gave a String.

Teedyuſcung, *a* Delaware *Chief, ſpoke next.*

Brother Onas, *and the People of* Pennſylvania,

We rejoice to hear from you, and that you are willing to renew the old good Underſtanding, and that you call to Mind the firſt Treaties of Friendſhip made by *Onas*, our great Friend, deceaſed, with our Fore-Fathers, when himſelf and his People firſt came over here. We take hold of theſe Treaties with both our Hands, and deſire you will do the ſame, that a good Underſtanding and true Friendſhip may be re-eſtabliſhed. Let us both take hold of theſe Treaties with all our Strength, we beſeech you; we on our Side will certainly do it.

Gave a Belt.

Brother Onas,

What you ſaid to us we took to Heart, and it entered into our Heart; and we ſpeak to you from our Heart; and we will deal honeſtly with you in every Reſpect.

Gave a String.

Brother

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Brother Onas,

We deſire you will look upon us with Eyes of Mercy. We are a very poor People; our Wives and Children are almoſt naked. We are void of Underſtanding, and deſtitute of the Neceſſaries of Life. Pity us.

Gave a String.

The Delawares, Memſkies, *and* Mohickons, *to* Onas, *and the People of* Pennſylvania.

Brethren,

There is a great Number of our People among you, and in a Manner confined; we deſire you will ſet them at Liberty, or rather give them a ſafe Conduct to *Wioming*, where we intend to ſettle as on your Fire Side; there we will jointly with you kindle a Council-Fire, which ſhall always burn, and we will be one People with you.

Gave two Belts.

Brother Onas, *and all the People of* Pennſylvania,

We had the Misfortune that a great and dark Cloud overſpread our Country; but by our Prudence, and that of our Uncles, the *Six Nations*, it is now almoſt diſpelled, and we ſee the clear Heavens again. We the *Delawares*, the *Shawaneſe*, the *Mohickons*, and *Memſkies*, give you this String of Wampum, and deſire you, that the Bitterneſs which might have gathered in this dark and unhappy Time may be removed, and that you may by this Means ſpit it out; take or accept this as a certain Cure for that Purpoſe, and paſs by all that is paſt, and think on your poor fooliſh Brethren with Mercy, and forget all the Evil done to you by them.

Gave ſeveral Strings of Wampum.

Brother Onas,

What our Uncles the *Six Nations* required of us, in your and their Behalf, by their Delegates, at *Otſaningo*, we that live on the River *Saſquehannah* have agreed to. We have laid aſide our Hatchet, and will never make uſe of it any more againſt you or your Brethren, the *Engliſh*: All our young Men have been conſulted about this, and all earneſtly agree to it, and we now ſpeak in their Preſence.

We muſt give you this Caution, not to charge them with any Thing that may be done by the *Ohio Indians*, who are under the Influence of the *French* againſt you. We aſſure you, our young Men will do no more Miſchief to your People.

Gave a String.

At a Council *held at* Philadelphia, *on* Tueſday, *the 8th of* June, 1756.

PRESENT,

The Honourable *ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS*, Eſq; Lieutenant-Governor.

Benjamin Shoemaker, Richard Peters,	Joseph Turner, John Mifflin,	Eſquires.

Captain Newcastle, Jagrea, or Satagarowyes,	*Indians* of the *Six Nations*.

Conrad Weiser, Eſq; Interpreter.

The Governor and the People of Pennſylvania, *to the* Indians *on* Saſquehannah, *gathered at* Teaogon.

Brethren,

I RETURN you the Thanks of this Government for the kind Reception you gave to my Meſſengers: This I look upon as an Act of Friendſhip, and a Token of your good Intentions.

A String of four Rows.

Brethren,

I am glad to find a good Spirit at laſt prevailing amongſt you, and that you hearkened to my Meſſage, and laid it to Heart; you will ever find us, your Brethren, ſincerely diſpoſed to conſult and act for your trueſt Intereſt, and in the ſeveral Matters which were or ſhall now be particularly promiſed on our Part, you may reſt aſſured we mean punctually to perform them, and expect the ſame Diſpoſition in you.

A String of four Rows.

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Brethren, the Shawaneſe, Delawares, Memſkies, *and* Mohickons,

As you on your Parts have confirmed the Treaties and Leagues of Amity ſubſiſting between you and this Government, and given a Belt in Confirmation thereof, and deſire the ſame be done on our Part; I do now, by this Belt, ratify and confirm all former Treaties and Engagements, and aſſure, that they ſhall be moſt inviolably obſerved as long as the Sun ſhines.

Here a large Belt was given.

Brethren,

As Your Confirmation of former Treaties was accompanied with Profeſſions of Sincerity, ſo I make you the ſtrongeſt Aſſurances of Truth in the Confirmation this Government has now made.

A String of four Rows.

Brethren,

That you and I may have an Opportunity of making theſe mutual Declarations at a publick Convention, I now kindle a Council-Fire at the Houſe of *Conrad Weiſer*, who is one of the Council of the *Six Nations*, and the publick Interpreter of the Province.

A large Belt of fourteen Rows.

N. B. *Mr.* Weiſer *ſaid it was neceſſary to name a particular Place*; *but the* Indians *were, notwithſtanding this, always at Liberty to name another*; *and he believed, from ſomething Captain* Newcaſtle *had dropped, the* Indians *would chuſe the* Forks-of-Delaware.

Brethren,

Having appointed a Place for us to meet in Council, I now clear the Roads to this Place, and remove the Logs and other Obſtructions out of it, ſo that it may be perfectly ſafe for every one deſirous to uſe it to travel to their Brethren when met in Council.

A Belt of eight Rows, and eight Strings tied to it.

Brethren,

It is offenſive to ſee Blood ſpilt upon the Road uſed by People who have lived in Friendſhip together; I therefore remove all Blood out of the Road that leads to the Council-Fire.

A Belt of nine Rows.

Brethren,

Your *Indians* who live among us go where they pleaſe; they live as we do; and enjoy their Liberty. We only hinder them from going to the Frontiers, where they might be miſtaken for Enemies, and hurt or killed; and that the *Indians* may know the Truth of this, we ſend ſome of them along with our Meſſengers to *Teaogon*, who will declare what Treatment they have had from us. What few we have in Confinement ſhall be ſet at Liberty when the Council meets, and be brought there.

A String.

Brethren,

This laſt is a very important Article, and what we abſolutely depend upon, That all Priſoners taken on both Sides ſhall be delivered up, as there can be no Sincerity on either Side where this is not done, and that in the moſt faithful and ample Manner, without keeping back a ſingle Priſoner; this Belt aſſures you that it ſhall be punctually performed by us, and we expect the ſame punctually on your Side.

Two Belts, the one of ſeven, the other of eight Rows.

Brethren,

You have mentioned to us the Diſtreſſes you have been, and are, in, for Want of Neceſſaries; theſe are owing to your having given Way to the Influences of an evil Spirit, and ſtruck us your Brethren without any Cauſe; and as you have brought it on yourſelves, you have the leſs Reaſon to complain: But now that a good Spirit begins to ſhew itſelf in you, and you deſire to meet us in Council, I ſhall bring with me a Sufficiency of Clothes and Proviſions to relieve thoſe Diſtreſſes.

A String.

Brethren,

As you have laid down the Hatchet, and deſire the ſame may be done by us, our Meſſenger carries with him our Proclamation for Suſpenſion of Hoſtilities within the Limits therein ſpecified, of which we have informed the *Six Nations*.

Brethren,

Agreeable to the repeated Advice and Requeſt of *Scarroyady*, and other *Indians* of the *Six Nations*, then reſiding in this Province, I engaged to build a Fort at *Shamokin*, for the Protection of our Friendly *Indians*, their Wives and Children; and I now acquaint you with the March of the Forces, in order to effect this uſeful Work, that it may give no Umbrage; the Commander having my Orders not to act offenſively.

Brethren,

You are to take Notice, that nothing propoſed by me is to interfere with any Invitation you may have received from Sir *William Johnſon*, or your Uncles, the *Six Nations*; they have acquainted me, that a great Council is to be held in the Country of the *Six Nations*; and thoſe *Indians* at *Teaogon* are invited to it: I would have them by all Means give their Attendance there. You may go to either Place as you incline, for we are both in the Service of one King, and act by his Direction.

Brother Newcaſtle,

I have now finiſhed what I would have you ſay in the Name of this Province to the *Indians* gathered at *Teaogon*. You will adapt the ſeveral Articles to *Indian* Cuſtoms, retaining the Spirit and Subſtance of them.

At a CONFERENCE *held at* Eaſton, *on* Wedneſday *the 28th of* July, 1756.

PRESENT,

The Honourable ROBERT HUNTER MORRIS, *Eſq*; *Lieutenant-Governor.*

WILLIAM LOGAN,
RICHARD PETERS,
BENJAMIN CHEW,
JOHN MIFFLIN,
} *Eſquires, of the Council.*

JOSEPH FOX,
JOHN HUGHES,
WILLIAM EDMONDS,
} *Commiſſioners.*

TEEDYUSCUNG, *the* Delaware *Chief*,
and 14 *other Chiefs*,
CONRAD WEISER, *Eſq*; *Interpreter for the* Six Nations.

JOHN PUMPSHIRE,
JOSEPH PEEPY,
BEN,
} *Interpreters for the* Delawares.

A large Company, conſiſting of Officers of the Royal American *Regiment, and of the Provincial Forces; Magiſtrates and Freeholders, of this and the neighbouring Province; and about forty Citizens of the City of* Philadelphia, *chiefly of the People called* Quakers.

The Governor acquainted the Indians *he was going to ſpeak, and deſired them to be attentive.*

Brethren,

BY a Belt which I ſent by *Newcaſtle*, and the other *Indian* Meſſengers, to *Diahogo*, I informed the *Indians* there, that I had kindled a Council Fire; by another String I invited them to it; and by a String of Wampum I cleared the Road, that they might come in Safety to us. I aſſured you of an hearty Welcome as ſoon as I came here, and of my Protection; and I now, in the Name of this Government, again bid you welcome. As Captain *Newcaſtle* brought me no Anſwer to ſome Part of the Meſſages I ſent laſt by him, I expect to receive them by you. I hope you come prepared to ſpeak to us freely, ſincerely, and openly, and deſire you may do ſo.

Conference at Eaſton.

A String.

To which *Teedyuſcung* immediately anſwered,

Laſt Spring you ſent me a String; and as ſoon as I heard the good Words you ſent, I was glad; and as you told us, we believe it came from your Hearts, ſo we felt it in our Hearts, and received what you ſaid with Joy.

Brethren,

The firſt Meſſages you ſent me, came in the Spring; they touched my Heart; they gave me Abundance of Joy. I returned an Anſwer to them, and waited for your ſecond Meſſages, which came after ſome Time, and were likewiſe very agreeable. By the laſt you acquainted me that you had kindled a Council Fire, and invited me and my People to it. We accepted the Invitation; and I came accordingly, and have ſtaid ſeveral Days, ſmoaking my Pipe with Patience, expecting to meet you here. We are ready to hear what you have to ſay, and not only we, but five other Nations, in all ten Nations, are now turning their Eyes this Way, and wait what will be ſaid and done at this Meeting.

Brother,

1756.

Brother,

I ſolemnly, and with the utmoſt Sincerity, declare, that tho' you may think I am alon here, yet it will not be long before you will be convinced that I am here by the Appointment of ten Nations, among which are my Uncles the *Six Nations*, authorizing me to treat with you, and what I do they will all confirm. The Truth of this you will ſoon have made evident to you.

Brother,

Hearken to what I am going to ſay: I declare, in the moſt ſolemn Manner, that what I now relate is the Truth. Abundance of Confuſion, Diſorder and Diſtraction has ariſen among the *Indians*, from People taking upon them to be Kings, and Perſons of Authority. In every Tribe of *Indians* there have been ſuch Pretenders, who have held Treaties, ſometimes publick, and ſometimes in the Buſhes; ſometimes what theſe People did came to be known, but frequently it remained in Darkneſs, or at leaſt no more was imparted to the Publick than they were pleaſed to publiſh. To ſome they held up their Belts, but others never ſaw them; this bred among the *Indians* great Heart-burnings and Quarrels, and I can aſſure you, that the preſent Clouds do, in a great Meaſure, owe their Riſe to this wild and irregular Way of doing Buſineſs.---The *Indians*, ſenſible of this Miſtake of our Anceſtors, are now determined to put an End to this Multitude of Kings, and to this dark Way of proceeding; they have agreed to put the Management of their Affairs into the Hands of a very few, and theſe ſhall no longer have it in their Power to huddle up and give partial Repreſentations of what is done. I aſſure you, that there are only two Kings appointed to tranſact publick Buſineſs, of which I am one. For the future, Matters will go better on both Sides; you as well as we will know who we are to deal with. We muſt beſeech the moſt High to ſcatter the Clouds which have ariſen between us, that we may ſettle Peace as heretofore.

A String.

Brethren, the Engliſh, *and particularly the Governor of* Pennſylvania,

You know you have invited me here; I came therefore; my Uncles, the *Six Nations*, will confirm what I ſay. In your Meſſages to the *Indians* at *Diahogo* you ſignified to us, that you heard we were in Want and Diſtreſs, which to be ſure we are, and pitied us and our poor Wives and Children. We took it kindly, and as a Word that came from your Heart. Now is the Time for you to look about, and act the Part of a charitable and wiſe Man.---Be therefore ſtrong---be aſſured that, though I am poor, I will do my Share. Whatever Kindneſs you do to me, or my People, ſhall be publiſhed to ten *Indian* Nations. We will not hide any Preſents you ſhall give us; every Body ſhall know that we have heard your good Words. We will not do as others, and ſome of our Uncles, the *Six Nations*, have done, ſneak away, and hide your Words and Preſents in the Buſhes, but ſhall publiſh far and near, that all may join with us. Exert yourſelves now in the beſt Maner you can, and you will obtain your End.

Brother,

The Concluſion of my Words is no more than this; the Matter in Hand is of too great Moment for one Man. I am but a Meſſenger from the *United Nations*, though I act as a Chief Man for the *Delawares*. I muſt now hear what you have to ſay to my People at this Council-Fire. If it be good, I ſhall lay hold of it, and carry it to the *United Nations*, who will ſmile and be pleaſed to hear good News. If what you will ſay be diſagreeable, I will, notwithſtanding, keep it cloſe (*here he cloſed his Fiſt*) and deliver it faithfully to the *United Nations*, and let them, as they are my Superiors, do as they ſee Cauſe.

Being aſked if he had done, he ſaid he had for the preſent; the main Thing, he added, is yet in my Breaſt, laying his Hand to his Heart, but this will depend on what Words the Governor will ſpeak to us. Then he repeated the *Delaware* Word, *Whiſh-ſhickſy*, the ſame in *Mohock* Language as *Jago*, with great Earneſtneſs, and in a very pathetick Tone. Mr. *Weiſer*, who knew the Word to have a very extenſive and forcible Senſe, deſired the Interpreter to aſk him what he meant by *Whiſh-ſhickſy* on this particular Occaſion, and explained himſelf in the following Manner. Suppoſe you want to remove a large Log of Wood, that requires many Hands, you muſt take Pains to get as many together as will do the Buſineſs; if you fall ſhort but one, though never ſo weak an one, all the reſt are to no Purpoſe. Though this be in itſelf nothing, yet, if you cannot move the Log without it, you muſt ſpare no Pains to get it. *Whiſh-ſhickſy*; be ſtrong; look round you; enable us to engage every *Indian* Nation we can; put the Means into our Hands; be ſure perform every Promiſe you have made to us; in particular do not pinch Matters neither with us or other *Indians*; we will help you; but we are poor, and you are rich; make us ſtrong, and we will uſe our Strength for you; and, beſides this, what you do, do quickly; the Times are dangerous; they will not admit of Delay.---*Whiſh-ſhickſy*; do it effectually, and do it with all poſſible Diſpatch.

The Governor then ſpoke.

Brother,

I have heard with Attention all you have ſaid. I thank you for the Openneſs with which you have declared your Sentiments; the Matters mentioned are of Importance; I have laid them to Heart; I will conſider them with my Council; when I am prepared to ſpeak, I will let you know; I will uſe Diſpatch, the Times being, as you juſtly obſerve, very dangerous.

At a CONFERENCE *held at* Eaſton, *on* Thurſday *the* 29th. *of* July, 1756.

PRESENT,

The Honourable the GOVERNOR.

The Gentlemen of the Council.
The Commiſſioners.
The ſame *Indians*.
The ſame Interpreters.

The ſame Audience.

Brethren,

I AM going to ſpeak to you on the Affair we are met about; my Speech will contain Matters of great Moment: By this String of Wampum thereſore I open your Ears, that you may give a proper Attention.

A String.

Brethren,

The Inhabitants of this Province have ever been a peaceable People, and remarkable for their Love and conſtant Friendſhip to the *Six Nations*, and other *Indians* in Alliance with them.

When our Back Inhabitants were attacked laſt Fall, we at firſt were at a Loſs to know from whence the Blow came; and were much ſurprized when we were informed that it was given by our old Friends and Neighbours the Couſins of our Brethren the *Six Nations*; we wondered at it; and the more ſo, as we had not, to our Knowledge, given them any juſt Cauſe of Offence.---As ſoon as we knew this, we ſent to the *Six Nations*, and informed them of it, and deſired to know, whether this Blow had been ſtruck by their Direction, or with their Privity or Conſent: And on receiving Aſſurances from them, that it was not done with their Conſent, and that they greatly diſapproved ſuch Conduct, we made ready to revenge the Injury we had received, and we wanted neither Men or Arms, Ammunition, nor Strength to do it, and to take Vengeance for the Injury done us; yet, when we had the Hatchet in our Hands, and were prepared not only to defend ourſelves, but to carry the War into the Country of thoſe who had ſtruck us, we ſent again to the *Six Nations*, agreeable to the Treaties ſubſiſting between us, to acquaint them of our Intentions. They let us know they had held a Grand Council, at *Fort Johnſon*, on this Matter, and that Deputies from thence were ſent to ſummon a Meeting of *Delawares* and *Shawaneſe* at *Otſaningo*, who were returned with an Account, That their Nephews had, at their Interpoſition, laid down the Hatchet, and would ſtrike the *Engliſh* no more. The *Six Nations* having received theſe Aſſurances from the *Delawares* and *Shawaneſe*, requeſted us not to execute our hoſtile Purpoſes, but to ſuſpend Hoſtilities; declaring, that they would fully accommodate this Breach, and bring about a Peace. At this Requeſt of the *Six Nations*, we kept our Warriors at Home, for guarding and protecting our Frontiers. I then ſent *Newcaſtle*, and other *Indian* Meſſengers to you, to notify the Advices of the *Six Nations*, with reſpect to what had been determined at *Otſaningo*, inſtructing him, in caſe he found you ſincerely diſpoſed for Peace, and inclined to return to your Alliance with us, to aſſure you, on the Behalf of this Government, that we were willing to it, on juſt and honourable Terms. *Newcaſtle*, and the other Meſſengers, returned with your Anſwers; in which you acknowledged, you had been under the Influence of an Evil Spirit, but were well diſpoſed to return to your old Amity and Friendſhip; at the ſame Time letting us know, that you was ſorry for what had paſſed; that you was in Diſtreſs, and deſired we would pity your Diſtreſſes. To ſhew our Readineſs to enter into a Treaty, and our Sincerity in what was ſaid by *Newcaſtle*, I ſent him back again to you, to let you know, on the Behalf of this Government, that I had kindled a Council-Fire, invited all your People to it, cleared the Road, waſhed off the Blood, and promiſed, if your People would come to Council, and renew former Leagues, and do what is further neceſſary on the Occaſion, I would bring ſomething with me to relieve your Diſtreſſes.---I thought it right to go through this Account in this particular Manner, that you might know from myſelf what was the Subject of the Meſſages ſent by *Newcaſtle*, and what was the Subſtance of the Anſwers I received by him. And now, I ſuppoſe (as I do not ſee the Body of your *Indians* here) your People, in general, did not believe *Newcaſtle*, but ſent you to know if he had my

1756. Authority for the ſeveral Matters he delivered to you, and to hear them from my own Mouth. I do not blame you for this Caution, it beſpeaks your Care. The Matters he was charged with being of the laſt Concern, for the Satisfaction of all your People, how wide ſoever they are diſperſed, I do in this publick Aſſembly, in the Name of the Government, and People of this Province, aſſure you, that Captain *Newcaſtle* acted by my Authority; and in Confirmation of what I have ſaid, and that what he delivered, was by Authority from me, I give you this Belt.

A Belt.

Brethren,

Being now convinced out of my Mouth, of the Sincerity of my Profeſſions made to you by Captain *Newcaſtle*, and of the Diſpoſitions of the People of this Province, to renew the antient Friendſhip that ſubſiſted between *William Penn* and the *Indians*, I deſire you will report this to the *Indians* at *Diahogo*, and to the *Six Nations*, and to all the *Indians* far and near, as my Words, ſpoken to them in the Name, and on the Behalf of the Government of *Pennſylvania*. I invite them all to this Council-Fire; the greater the Number that ſhall come, the more acceptable it will be to me. I invite, and deſire you will bring with you, your whole People; but then you muſt bring here with you alſo all the Priſoners you have taken during theſe Diſturbances; I muſt inſiſt on this, as an Evidence of your Sincerity to make a laſting Peace, for, without it, though Peace may be made from the Teeth outwards, yet while you retain our Fleſh and Blood in Slavery, it cannot be expected we can be Friends with you, or that a Peace can come from our Hearts. I repeat this Article of the Priſoners as a neceſſary Condition of Peace, and deſire you will conſider it as ſuch: If in this you deal with us ſincerely, we ſhall eſteem you ſincere in every Thing elſe, and proceed to renew our former Leagues and Covenants, and become again one Fleſh as before. And I muſt remind you (as we are acting in Conſort with the *Six Nations*) to bring ſome of your Uncles along with you, that they may ſee all that paſſes, and be Witneſſes of the good Effects of their and our Meſſages to you.

A Belt.

Brethren,

In Teſtimony of the Satisfaction you have given all our People by your coming to this Council-Fire, they have put into my Hands a ſmall Preſent for you and your young Men, which will be given you at any Time you ſhall think proper. I have likewiſe given Orders to the Captains of the Forts, on the Frontiers, to furniſh you with as much Proviſions as you can carry, for the Uſe of the People you have left behind you.

Brethren,

Only a few of you are now come down; this Preſent of Goods therefore is but ſmall; when the Body of your Nation comes here, which I expect they will, and the Priſoners are delivered up, and a firm Peace made, larger Preſents will be given, and your Diſtreſſes releved in a more ample Manner.

Brother,

Great Works require ſtrong Hands and many; this is a good and a great one, the Work of Peace; it requires ſtrong Heads, and ſound Hearts; we deſire many ſuch may be joined together: I therefore deſire your Aſſiſtance for *Pennſylvania* in this Matter; having great Influence with many who live far diſtant from us, you are eſteemed, and will be heard; we therefore chuſe you as Agent and Counſellor for this Province; engage in it heartily. You ought to do it; you owe it to the Country in which you was born; you owe it to your Brethren the *Engliſh*; you owe it to your Uncles the *Six Nations*; you owe it to your own People over which you preſide: We deſire you will heartily undertake it, and uſe your utmoſt Endeavours to bring about this great and good Work we have now begun.

A large Belt.

Teedyuſcung anſwered, that he had received the Governor's Words kindly, and would, in a few Words, anſwer him. Then taking a large Belt in his Hand, he proceeded.

Brother,

At the very Time *Newcaſtle* came with your laſt Meſſages, I was in Treaty with the *Six Nations*, and then received this Authority from them. [*Lifting up the Belt.*] This Belt denotes, that the *Six Nations*, by their Chiefs, have lately renewed their Covenant Chains with us; formerly we were accounted Women, and employed only in Womens Buſineſs; but now they have made Men of us, and as ſuch we are now come to this Treaty. Having this Authority as a Man to make Peace, I have it in my Hand, but have not opened it; but will ſoon declare it to the other Nations. This Belt holds together ten Nations; we are in the Middle, between the *French* and *Engliſh*; look at it. There are but two Chiefs of the ten Nations; they are now looking on, and their Attention is fixed, to ſee who are diſpoſed really for Peace.---This Belt further denotes, that whoever will not comply with the Terms of Peace, the ten Nations will join againſt him and ſtrike him; ſee the dangerous Circumcumſtances I am in; ſtrong Men on both Sides; Hatchets on both Sides; whoever does incline to Peace, him will I join.

Brother,

This is a good Day; whoever will make Peace, let him lay hold of this Belt, and the Nations around ſhall ſee and know it. I deſire to conduct myſelf according to your Words, which I will perform to the utmoſt of my Power. I wiſh the ſame good Spirit that poſſeſſed the good old Man *William Penn*, who was a Friend to the *Indians*, may inſpire the People of this Province at this Time.

Then delivered the Belt.

The Governor received it, and ſaid, I take hold of the Belt, and am pleaſed with what has been ſaid; it is all very good.

Teedyuſcung then explained the Belt, ſaying, it was ſent him by the *Six Nations*, and he accepted of it: You ſee, ſays he, a Square in the Middle, meaning the Lands of the *Indians*, and at one End the Figure of a Man, indicating the *Engliſh*; and at the other End another, meaning the *French*; our Uncles told us, that both theſe coveted our Lands; but let us join together to defend our Lands againſt both, you ſhall be Partakers with us of our Lands.

Teedyuſcung and his Son came and dined with the Governor; and after Dinner, ſome more of the *Indians* coming in, the Governor acquainted *Teedyuſcung* that he had ſomething of Importance to communicate to him. The Governor then informed him, That as he was going to Council this Morning, he received a Letter from the Northern Frontiers, with very bad News, that gave him a great deal of Concern: By this Letter he received Advice, that ſome *Indians* had killed four of our White People at the *Miniſinks*; this occaſioned our Forces to be upon their Guard, and a Party of them fell in with three *Indians*, and judging them to be Enemy *Indiens*, one of them was killed in endeavouring to make his Eſcape; and then the Governor entered into the Particulars related in *Van Etten*'s Letter. The Governor ſaid, he did not know what *Indians* had done this Miſchief. If the *Indian* who was killed was our Friend, he was ſorry for it; but if our Enemy, he was glad of it.

Teedyuſcung ſaid, that when he came here to Council, all the *Indians* thereabouts knew of it; and therefore he believed it muſt be the *French Indians* that killed our People; but that if his People were ſo fooliſh as to come on our Borders at this Time, and were killed any how, they muſt take the Reward of their Folly. None of theſe private Deaths ought to affect a publick Meaſure; nor would this make any Alterations in his Councils.

At a CONFERENCE *held at* Eaſton, *on* Friday, *the* 30*th of* July, 1756.

PRESENT,

The Honourable the GOVERNOR,

The Gentlemen of the Council. The ſame *Indians*.

The Commiſſioners. The ſame Interprerers.

The ſame Audience.

The Goods were brought, and placed on the Council Table, and were delivered to the Indians, *the Governor ſpeaking as follows.*

Brethren,

I ACQUAINTED you Yeſterday, that the People of *Pennſylvania* had put into my Hands a ſmall Preſent to relieve you, and your Wives and Children, from their preſent Diſtreſſes. I think it further neceſſary to inform you, That a Part of this Preſent was given by the People called *Quakers* (who are the Deſcendants of thoſe who firſt came over to this Country with your old Friend *William Penn*) as a particular Teſtimony of their Regard and Affection for the *Indians*, and their earneſt Deſire to promote the good Work of Peace in which we are now engaged.

Brethren,

1756. *Brethren,*

This is not only their Sentiments but my own, and thoſe of the People of this Province; who will all rejoice to ſee this good Work of Peace perfected; and therefore, as you have now received from us this ſubſtantial Proof of our Diſpoſition to relieve your Diſtreſſes, you will be the better enabled to encourage others to return to their former Friendſhip with us. I ſay, Brother, by this we give you a clear Teſtimony of our Readineſs and good Diſpoſitions for Peace. Shew you the ſame Readineſs, and comply with the Terms I have propoſed to you.

A String.

Teedyuſcung returned Thanks; and repeated his Aſſurances of doing all in his Power to perfect a general Peace with the *Indians*.---From the Council, the Governor proceeded to an Entertainment that was provided for the *Indians*, the Officers, and all the Company then in Town, accompanying him.

Teedyuſcung, whilſt at Dinner, was ſo well pleaſed with his kind Reception and generous Entertainment, that he declared, in the warmeſt Manner, no Endeavours of his ſhould be wanting to bring over to the Peace, all the *Indians* far and near, that he could ſpeak or ſend to; and repeatedly deſired the Governor would publiſh what was done, through his and the neighbouring Provinces, and he would do the ſame at Home.-----The *Philadelphia Quakers* going after Dinner to take their Leave of him, he parted with them in a very affectionate Manner; but the other Part of the Company ſtaying, he entered into a free Converſation with the Governor; wherein he related many entertaining Particulars reſpecting his Journey to *Niagara*, and afterwards made a Council Speech with a String of Wampum, ſaying:

Brother,

You are ſo good, and received us ſo kindly, I will alſo give you ſome of that good Tobacco that the *Six Nations* have put into my Pipe; you ſhall ſmoak of it yourſelves; you will find it is good, and I will give of the ſame Tobacco wherever I go (meaning the Meſſage from the *Six Nations* to them, to be at Peace with the *Engliſh*.) The ſame Thing that I have offered to you I will offer to all the *Indians*, and at the ſame time tell them, that you have ſmoaked of this Tobacco; but to do this requires me to be rich, and yet I am poor.--- It will take up a long Time, as there are many Nations to ſend the Pipe to; but in two Months I hope to go my Rounds, and be here again with a large Number, of different Nations, I ſay it may be in two Months, but it may be longer, as the People live at a great Diſtance from one another. I aſſure you I will execute every Thing you have deſired of me, and let the *Six Nations* know all that has paſſed between us; and that I am your Agent and Counſellor in the *Delaware* Nation.

A String.

Brethren,

I would not have you miſtake me, as if I meant that I could prevail on the *Ohio Indians*: I cannot tell that they will leave off doing Miſchief.---I hope you will ſtrengthen yourſelves againſt them; pray make yourſelves as ſtrong as poſſible on that Side. I muſt warn you likewiſe of another Thing; perhaps on the Eaſt Side of *Saſquehannah* there may be Miſchief done by *Indians* in my Abſence; but be aſſured it will not be by any of my People; it will be by the *French Indians* from *Ohio*, who can eaſily paſs over *Saſquehannah*, and do what Miſchief they pleaſe: Againſt theſe, you muſt be ſure to arm yourſelves in the beſt Manner you can; remember I give you this Warning.

A String.

At a COUNCIL *held at* Eaſton, *on* Friday, *the 30th of* July, 1756, P. M.

PRESENT,

The Honourable the GOVERNOR.

WILLIAM LOGAN, RICHARD PETERS,	BENJAMIN CHEW, JOHN MIFFLIN.	} Eſquires.

CONRAD WEISER, Eſquire.

MR. *WEISER* was aſk'd, Whether it was intended the Governor ſhould keep the Belt *Teedyuſcung* gave, or return it? Mr. *Weiſer* anſwered, That having ſome Doubts about it, he put the ſame Queſtion to *Newcaſtle*, who ſaid the Belt was ſent by the *Six Na-*

tions to the *Delawares*, and as it was given by them to the Governor, it ought to be preſerved among the Council Wampum, being a Belt of great Conſequence; and it would be well to return another of a Fathom long, and at the Delivery of it, which muſt be in Council To-morrow, to make a proper Addreſs to *Teedyuſcung*, that he would be diligent, and carry it to all the Nations within his Influence. *Newcaſtle* ſaid further, That *Teedyuſcung* would want Abundance of Wampum, and if he had it not, the Cauſe would ſuffer exceedingly. He hoped the Council Bag was full, and deſired it might be emptied into the Lap of *Teedyuſcung*. Mr. *Weiſer* concurring in Opinion, and ſaying, that the *French* gave great Quantities of Wampum to their *Indians*, and on Matters of Conſequence their Belts were ſeveral Fathom long, and very wide, the Secretary was ordered to bring what Wampum he had into Council, *viz.* Fifteen Strings, and ſeven Belts, a Parcel of new black Wampum, amounting to ſeven Thouſand; and having no new white Wampum, nor any proper Belts to give in Return for *Teedyuſcung*'s Peace Belt, a Meſſenger was ſent to *Bethlehem*, and he returned with five Thouſand; upon which the *Indian* Women were employed to make a Belt of a Fathom long, and ſixteen Beads wide; in the Center of which was to be the Figure of a Man, meaning the Governor of *Pennſylvania*, and on each Side five other Figures, meaning the ten Nations mentioned by *Teedyuſcung*.

The King, who was very irregular in his Viſits, as well as in his Diſcourſes, bolted all of a ſudden into the Room, and with a high Tone of Voice ſpoke as follows, *viz.*

Brother,

I deſire all that I have ſaid, and you have ſaid to one another, may be taken down aright; ſome ſpeak in the Dark; do not let us do ſo; let all be clear and known. What is the Reaſon the Governor holds Councils ſo cloſe in his Hands, and by Candle Light? The *Five Nations* uſed to make him ſit out of Doors like a Woman.---If the *Five Nations* ſtill make him a Woman, they muſt; but what is the Reaſon the Governor makes him a Woman, meaning, Why does he confer with *Indians* without ſending for him, to be preſent and hear what was ſaid?

The Governor anſwered, That he holds Councils on a Hill; has no Secrets; never ſits in Swamps, but ſpeaks his Mind openly to the World; what happens here he has a Right to hear: The Women were ſent for to make a Belt, not to Council. The *Six Nations* may be wrong, they are not under his Direction; and therefore he is not anſwerable for their Conduct, if they have not treated the *Delawares* as Men.

The Chief thanked the Governor, ſeemed well pleaſed, and ſaid, To-morrow he would ſpeak more, and what he had to ſay was from the *Six Nations*:---He that won't make Peace muſt die.

A String.

It was agreed in the Morning the Governor ſhould deliver the new Belt, then in making, to *Teedyuſcung*, with a proper Speech; that by two Belts tied together, *Newcaſtle* and *Teedyuſcung* ſhould be made joint Agents for this Government, and they be deſired to conſult together, to love one another, and to act for the beſt; that the new black Wampum, and all the Belts and Strings, ſhould be given to *Teedyuſcung*, and a private Preſent made to him and his Interpreter, *Ben*.

1756.

At a Council *held at* Eaſton, *on* Saturday, *the* 31*ſt of* July, 1756

PRESENT,

The Honourable the Governor.

The ſame Members as before. Teedyuscung,
Conrad Weiser, Eſq; Newcastle.

The Names of the Indians *preſent at the Treaty were taken down by Mr.* Edmonds, *and ordered to be entered.*

Mr. Weiſer *having enquired of* Newcaſtle *what Meſſages had been received by the* Delawares, *at* Diahogo, *from the* Six Nations, *received the following Information, which he took down in Words that are the literal Interpretation of what* Newcaſtle *ſaid, viz.* " *The large Belt, given by* Teedyuſcung, *was ſent to the* Delawares *by the Council of the* Six United Nations, *with a Meſſage to the following Purport.*

Couſins, the Delaware Indians,

YOU will remember that you are our Women; our Fore-Fathers made you ſo, and put a Petticoat on you, and charged you to be true to us, and lie with no other Man; but of late you have ſuffered the String that tied your Petticoat to be cut looſe by the *French*, and you lay with them, and ſo became a common Bawd, in which you acted very wrong, and deſerve Chaſtiſement; but notwithſtanding this, we have ſtill an Eſteem for you, and as you have thrown off the Cover of your Modeſty, and become ſtark naked, which is a Shame for a Woman, you muſt be made a Man; and we now give you a little Power, but it will be ſome Time till you ſhall be a complete Man; we adviſe you not to act as a Man yet, but be firſt inſtructed by us, and do as we bid you, and you will become a noted Man.

Couſins,

The *Engliſh* and *French* fight for our Lands; let us be ſtrong, and lay our Hands to it, and defend it; in the mean time turn your Eyes and Ears to us, and the *Engliſh*, our Brethren, and you will live as well as we do.

Then the Governor ſent to *Newcaſtle* and *Teedyuſcung* the new Belt; not being finiſhed, he explained the propoſed Figure to them, and deſired the Women might finiſh it on rainy Days, or reſting on their Journey, which was promiſed.

Then the Governor ſpoke as follows:

Brother Newcaſtle, *and* Teedyuſcung,

I ſet an high Value upon this Belt; it is the Peace Belt which *Teedyuſcung* delivered in Council; I very chearfully lay hold of it; I will lay it up with the Council Belts, and declare to you, I am moſt heartily diſpoſed to effect the Meaning of this Belt, a ſpeedy and honourable Peace, and a Return of the Offices of Love and Friendſhip between the *Indians* and their Brethren the *Engliſh*.---In Return, I give you the Belt now making, which you will conſider as finiſhed; and when done, ſhew it every where, and make our Diſpoſitions and the Treatment you have met with known to your own People, the *Six Nations*, and all your Allies.---[*Here the Governor gave the new Belt, ſo far as it was made, and all the Wampum prepared for it, deſiring, if it was not enough to complete it, that they would add more.*] Then taking up the two Belts, joined together, in his Hands, and addreſſing *Newcaſtle* and *Teedyuſcung*, he delared them Agents for the Province, and gave them Authority to do the publick Buſineſs together. He recommended to them a mutual Confidence, Eſteem and Intimacy, and wiſhed them Succeſs in their Negotiations.

To which they anſwered, That they would be mutual good Friends, and lay their Heads together, and do every Thing in their Power to promote the weighty Matters entruſted to them.

Teedyuſcung added, If his Memory ſhould not ſerve him in every Thing committed to his Charge, or Things ſhould be crooked, he would return to us, and make them ſtraight. What he ſays comes from his Heart, and not from his Lips; his Heart and ours ſhould be one, and be true to one another; for if different Liquors are put in a Caſk, and ſhaked, they will mix, and come out one.

The Governor ſaid, that he had written down what *Teedyuſcung* ſaid on the Belt delivered by him, and will keep it in his Heart. It is very agreeable to him and the People of *Pennſylvania*. He will lay up the Belt in the Council-chamber as a Mark of his Friendſhip. As he is appointed Agent for *Pennſylvania*, with Captain *Newcaſtle*, he puts into his Hands all the Belts and Wampum he has here, to be made uſe of by him in the Courſe of his Negotiations, as he may judge moſt proper, and moſt for the Intereſt of the People of this Province.

Teedyuſcung anſwered, That he might meet with Difficulties in tranſacting the important Buſineſs committed to his Charge; but as he is now one of the Council of the Province of *Pennſylvania*, he aſſures his Brethren, that he will exert himſelf faithfully, and to the utmoſt of his Abilities, in the Service; and if he meets with crooked Paths, he will endeavour to make them ſtraight.

The Governor thanked *Teedyuſcung* and *Newcaſtle* for their undertaking to be Agents for *Pennſylvania* on this Occaſion, deſired that they might unite and co-operate one with another, and conſult together on the proper Meaſures to be entered into by them, and delivered them two Belts tied together, as a Sign or Symbol of that Harmony and Unanimity that ought to ſubſiſt between them.

Teedyuſcung ſaid, That he was pleaſed with being joined with *Newcaſtle* in the publick Buſineſs; that he hoped Matters would be brought to a happy Iſſue; that he wiſhed there might be a firm Friendſhip and laſting Union between the *Six Nations*, the other *Five Nations*, and the People of *Pennſylvania*, and that they might be as one Man. He further ſaid, that he had a large Family, and having a great Way to go, he had no Means of carrying any more Proviſions than would ſerve him on the Road; he therefore deſired that he might be furniſhed with a Horſe, that he might be enabled to carry Neceſſaries for his Family.---Whereupon the Governor promiſed to let him have a Horſe, and he promiſed to return him again the next Time he came down.

The Governor then taking into his Hands all the Belts, Strings, and Bundles of new black Wampum, gave them to *Teedyuſcung*, and deſired he would uſe them to the beſt Advantage among the Nations he ſhould apply to.

The private Preſents were then given, and the Governor and Council took their Leave, the Council returning to *Philadelphia*, and the Governor going to *New-York*, on an Expreſs received from General *Shirley*.

A Liſt of the Indians *preſent at a* TREATY *held at* Eaſton, *on the 26th of* July, 1756.

Captain *Newcaſtle*, one of the Counſellors of the *Six Nations*,
Teedyuſcung, alias *Gideon*, King of the *Delawares*,
Tapaſcawen, Counſellor,
Amos,
Keſmitas, } *Teedyuſcung*'s three Sons,
John Jacobs,
Matchmetawchunk, his Son-in-Law,
John Smalling, his Grand-Son,
Chriſtian,
William,
Joſiah,
Baronet Rewman, an *Onondago Indian*,
Wecmochwee,
Mongeeſt,
Hachchaon,
Ben, that ſpeaks *Engliſh*,
John Pumpſhire,
Joſeph Michty,
Thomas Storer,
Joſeph Peepy,
Nicodemus,
Zacharias,
Chriſtian,
Machawehelly,
And ſundry Women and Children.

I have carefully peruſed the foregoing Minutes, and do find them to give a true Account of what paſſed between the Governor and the *Indians*, in my Preſence, at *Eaſton*.

Philadelphia, September 11, 1756.

CONRAD WEISER.

At

At a CONFERENCE *with the* Indians, *held at* Eaſton, *on* Monday, *the* 8*th of* November, 1756.

PRESENT,

The Honourable WILLIAM DENNY, *Eſq*; *Lieutenant-Governor.*

WILLIAM LOGAN, RICHARD PETERS, } Eſquires.

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, JOSEPH FOX, WILLIAM MASTERS, JOHN HUGHES, } *Commiſſioners.*

TEEDYUSCUNG, *the* Delaware *King*,
Speaker of the Six Nations,
Delaware Indians,
Shawaneſe,
Mohiccons,
PUMPSHIRE, *a* Jerſey Delaware Indian, *Interpreter.*

Colonel WEISER, *Major* PARSONS, *Capt.* WEATHERHOLT, *Capt.* VAN ETTEN, *Capt.* REYNOLDS, } *Officers of the Provincial Forces.*

Lieutenant M'ALPIN, *and Enſign* JEFFRYS, *Recruiting Officers, of the* Royal Americans.

A Number of Gentlemen and Freeholders, from the ſeveral Counties, and from the City of Philadelphia.

1756. Conference at Eaſton.

ON *Saturday* Morning the Governor, whilſt at *Samuel Dean*'s, received Intelligence from Mr. *Horſfield,* that a Party of *Indians,* who came with *Teedyuſcung* from *Diahogo,* ſtaid behind at a little Diſtance from Fort *Allen*, and had ſome bad Deſigns in doing ſo; whereupon the *Moravian* Brother who brought the Intelligence, was immediately diſpatched to *Eaſton*, and the next Morning the Governor received a Letter from Colonel *Weiſer*, informing him, that the Matter communicated to him by Mr. *Horſfield*, had been examined into along with *Teedyuſcung*, and was without Foundation; on which the Governor proceeded on his Journey, and came to Town in the Afternoon; and as ſoon as he alighted, the *Delaware* King, and two of the *Six Nation Indians*, came to wait on him, by whom he was told, that Colonel *Weiſer*, and two other of the *Six Nations*, were gone to meet him, but had taken a different Road.

Mr. *Weiſer*, and the two *Indians* came afterwards, and expreſſed their Concern at miſſing the Governor.

This Morning the Governor ſent Mr. *Weiſer* with his Compliments to the *Indian* Chief, and deſired to know whether he intended to ſpeak firſt, and when; and the King ſaying it was his Duty to ſpeak firſt, wiſhed it might be this Forenoon; on which the Governor appointed Eleven a Clock; at which Time the Governor marched from his Lodging to the Place of Conference, guarded by a Party of the *Royal Americans* in the Front, and on the Flanks, and a Detachment of Colonel *Weiſer*'s Provincials, in Sub-diviſions, in the Rear, with Colours flying, Drums beating, and Muſick playing; which Order was always obſerved in going to the Place of Conference.

Teedyuſcung opened the Conferences with the following Speech.

Brother the Governor,

May it pleaſe your Excellency to hear a few Words; I will put the Governor and Gentlemen in mind, that Conferences were held here in the Summer, and what paſſed there is well known.

I have taken all the Pains poſſible to execute what I then undertook, and have brought with me ſeveral of different Tribes, as well *Delawares* as *Six Nation Indians.*

I held up the Encouragements I received from the *Engliſh*, and ſpread them far and near to all the Tribes I promiſed to go to, as well among the *Delawares* as *Six Nations*; and I aſſure you, I have been true and faithful to my Promiſes, and uſed all the Diligence in my Power; in Teſtimony whereof I give theſe

Four Strings.

In Confirmation that I have faithfully publiſhed what was committed to my Care, ſeveral *Indians* of different Places, as well *Six Nation Indians* as *Delawares*, are come along with me, and being now preſent, will put their Hands and Seals to the Truth of what I ſay; they have acted upon what I delivered in Behalf of this Government, and their Minds are intent on the good Work that is going on; ſome of them were here before.

In Conformity to an antient and good Cuſtom eſtabliſhed among our Anceſtors, I now proceed to open your Eyes and Ears, and remove all Obſtructions out of your Throats, that nothing may impede the Attention neceſſary to be uſed in a Matter of ſuch Importance as is now going on.

Some bad Reports have lately been ſpread, which deſerve to be no more minded than the Whiſtling of Birds; theſe I would remove by this Belt, and take away all bad Impreſſions that may have been made by them.

Gave a Belt of eight Rows.

Brother,

I have done for the preſent, and another Time, if God ſpares Life, I will begin the main Matter I came to do.

The Governor replied.

Brother,

I return you Thanks for your kind Speech, and likewiſe for the Regard you ſhewed me in ſending two of the *Six Nation Indians* along with Mr. *Weiſer* to meet me. I unfortunately took a different Road, and ſo we miſſed of one another; but it gave me great Satisfaction to hear by Mr. *Weiſer*, that he and thoſe *Indians* were deſirous to meet me, and conduct me to Town.

Brother,

Many idle Reports are ſpread by fooliſh and buſy People; I agree with you, that on both Sides they ought to be no more regarded than the Chirping of Birds in the Woods.

A String.

Brother,

By this Belt I open your Eyes and Ears, and particularly the Paſſage from your Heart to your Mouth, that in what you have to ſay to this Government they may both concur, nor the Mouth utter any Thing but what is firſt conceived in the Heart: And I promiſe you Openneſs and Sincerity in every Thing I ſhall ſpeak.

A Belt.

The Governor ſaid, he would be ready to hear what *Teedyuſcung* had further to ſay at Eleven o' Clock To-morrow Morning.

At a CONFERENCE *with the* Indians, *on* Tueſday, *the 9th Day of* November, 1756.

PRESENT,

The Honourable *WILLIAM DENNY*, Eſq; Lieutenant-Governor.
WILLIAM LOGAN, RICHARD PETERS, } Eſquires.
The Commiſſioners, Gentlemen, Mr. WEISER, Officers.
Indians as before.

The Governor ordered the Interpreter to acquaint Teedyuſcung *that he was ready to hear him, and he delivered himſelf as follows.*

Brother,

THIS is to notify to you, that at the Treaty held here in the Summer, I promiſed to publiſh what was then delivered to me to all the Nations I could have any Influence on; and that I have performed all I promiſed, and done my Duty faithfully, with Reſpect to all theſe

1756. Nations, I can evidence by ſome of them who are come with me, and are now here, at your Pleaſure, ready to hear what you have to ſay to us, and diſpoſed to do every Thing in their Power, in Confirmation of what has been, or will be, tranſacted.

A String.

Brethren;

This Belt ſignifies that I took Notice of, and paid a due Regard to, every Thing ſent by the Meſſengers you ſent to me at *Diahogo*, whom I received kindly. You may in particular remember, that you took hold of my Hand, and thereupon I came to this Place, where the Council-Fire was appointed to be kindled: When I came here, I found every Thing ſaid by your Meſſengers true; which, on my Return, I made known, as well as every Thing elſe that was then delivered to me, to ten different Nations, *Delawares* and *Six Nations*; and as many of them as I have prevailed upon to come with me, can evidence the Truth of this.

We are all put in mind of the ancient Leagues and Covenants made by our Fore-Fathers, and of the former Union and mutual kind Actions of our and their Anceſtors; what was propoſed here renewed the Remembrance of theſe former happy Times.

Though we are but Children in Compariſon of them, and of little Ability, as you well know, yet we have picked up a few Chips, and will add them to the Fire, and hope it will grow a great Fire, and blaze high, and be ſeen by all the different *Indian Nations*, Spectators of what we are now doing.

A Belt of ten Rows.

Brethren,

I remember what has paſſed in Diſcourſe and Converſation among our old antient People, eſpecially about Governor *Penn*; what he ſaid to the *Indians* is freſh in our Minds and Memory, and I believe it is in yours. The *Indians* and Governor *Penn* agreed well together; this we all remember, and it was not a ſmall Matter that would then have ſeparated us: And now, as you fill the ſame Station he did in this Province, it is in your Power to act the ſame Part.

I am now before you juſt what you ſee me; I repreſent myſelf only to be a Boy; I am really no more. Now as Miſfortunes have happened by the bad Spirit, by our Enemy, and by ſome of our fooliſh young People, I declare unto you the Truth, that I have ever been ſorry to ſee it thus, and, as far as I knew myſelf, if it coſts me my Life, I would make it otherwiſe.---As I have already proceeded a great Way, and prevailed on thoſe who have ſtept out of the Way, and on many of whom I had little or no Expectation, to enter into peaceable Meaſures, I now call upon you to uſe your Ability, which is much greater than ours, to aſſiſt this good Work, to encourage it, and to confirm it to good Advantage.

A Belt of ſeven Rows.

Taking the Belt up again, he added, What you have ſaid I have truly imparted to all, and what you ſhall now ſay I ſhall likewiſe hold up; I ſhall not put it into my Boſom, but declare it, and diſtribute it to all, that it may have a good Effect.

At a COUNCIL *held at* Eaſton, *on* Wedneſday, *the* 10*th Day of* November, 1756.

P R E S E N T,

The Honourable *WILLIAM DENNY*, Eſq; Lieutenant-Governor.

WILLIAM LOGAN, } Eſquires.
RICHARD PETERS, }

CONRAD WEISER, from *Teedyuſcung*, acquainted the Governor, That laſt Night an *Indian*, named *Zaccheus*, brought an Account from *Fort Allen*, that about Forty *Indian* Warriors were come to *Niſkamekatchton*, a Creek about three Miles beyond that Fort, from *Diahogo*, where they were informed by ſome *Indians*, who firſt ſet out with *Teedyuſcung* to accompany him to the Treaty at *Eaſton*, that he and all his Company were cut off, and they were come to revenge his Death, in caſe they ſhould have found it true; but hearing *Teedyuſcung* was ſafe, and kindly received by the *Engliſh*, they were glad, and would remain there. *Teedyuſcung* being aſked by Mr. *Weiſer*, if it would not be proper to ſend an Invitation to them to come to the Treaty, he ſaid it would, and deſired the Governor might join with him in it; which being approved by the Governor, *Moſes Tattamy*, and Lieutenant *Holler*, were diſpatched with the Meſſage.

The Minutes of Yeſterday's Conference were read, and the Anſwer conſidered and agreed to, but referred till the Return of the Meſſengers from the *Indians* beyond *Fort Allen.*

Conrad Weiſer was ordered to inform the *Indians* by *Moſes Tattamy*, that Parties of the Enemy *Indians* had lately committed Murders on the Borders of this County, even ſince *Teedyuſcung*'s coming amongſt us, but were retreated, and that the Inhabitants were determined to purſue the Murderers, and to deſire the *Indians* not to ſtraggle, but keep together, leſt they ſhould be miſtaken for Enemy *Indians*.

At a Meeting of the Governor and Commiſſioners, it was mentioned, that the *Indians* had ſurmized as if Injuſtice had been done them in Land Affairs, the Governor therefore added to his Anſwer a Paragraph, putting the Queſtion in plain Terms.

At a COUNCIL *held at* Eaſton, *on* Friday, *the* 12*th of* November, 1756.

PRESENT,

The Honourable *WILLIAM DENNY*, Eſq; Lieutenant-Governor.

WILLIAM LOGAN, } Eſquires.
RICHARD PETERS, }

THE Meſſenger, *Moſes Tattamy*, returned this Morning from the *Indians*, and reported, That in his Journey, near *Hayes*'s, about Half-way to *Fort-Allen*, he met two *Indians* and a Soldier coming down to ſee their Friends, and know what they were doing, and how received; but as he told the *Indians* he was going up with a Meſſage from the Governor and *Teedyuſcung*, they were ſatisfied, and returned to hear it: That he came to the *Indians* at Nine o'Clock Yeſterday Forenoon, and delivered his Meſſage; after which they were in Council till Three in the Afternoon, and then gave him an Anſwer to the following Effect.---"That they thanked the Governor for the kind Notice he had taken of them, and for his Invitation to come to the Treaty, but as it was agreed between *Teedyuſcung* and them that they ſhould come no farther than the Place where they were, and that the Goods, in caſe of Succeſs, were to be brought and divided at *Fort-Allen*, they intended to ſtay whilſt the Treaty continued; they were glad to hear the *Indians* were treated as Friends, and that a Peace was likely to be made, and if it ſhould be ſo, they ſhould all heartily rejoice, and would agree to, and confirm, every Thing *Teedyuſcung* ſhould do."---*Tattamy* told the Governor, that he had likewiſe informed them of the Murders lately committed, deſiring them to be cautious of ſtraggling, or going at a great Diſtance; for which Notice they were thankful, and promiſed to keep their *Indians* together; and if they ſaw any Tracts of *Indians* going towards this Province, to give immediate Notice of it to the Governor.

The Meſſenger being aſked if thoſe *Indians* had impowered *Teedyuſcung* to tranſact Buſineſs for them at the Treaty, he anſwered, that they ſaid, in expreſs Terms, they had given him their Authority, and if any Good ſhould be done (meaning if a firm Peace ſhould be concluded) not only they, but all the *Indians* at *Diahogo*, and many more different Tribes, or Towns, would be exceedingly pleaſed with it, and would confirm it.

The Draught of the Governor's Anſwer to the *Indians* as ſettled at the laſt Council, was read, and ſome Alterations made; then the *Indians* had Notice that the Governor would ſpeak to them this Afternoon.

1756. *At a* **Conference** *with the* Indians, *on* Friday, *the* 12*th of* November, 1756, P. M.

PRESENT,

The Honourable *WILLIAM DENNY*, Eſq; Lieutenant-Governor.

William Logan, } Eſquires.
Richard Peters, }

The ſame Commiſſioners,	Officers,
Gentlemen,	*Indians*, as before.

The Governor ſpoke as follows.

Brother,

I AM going to give you an Anſwer to what was ſaid by you at our laſt Meeting, and would have done it ſooner, if I had not expected to have ſeen more of our *Indian* Brethren here; I ſhall uſe the utmoſt Sincerity on my Part, and deſire you will hearken attentively.

A String.

Brother,

I obſerve what you have ſaid, in regard to your faithful Performance of all the Matters given you in Charge by this Government when you were laſt here, and do heartily thank you for the diligent Care you have taken to make known to all the *Indian* Nations our good Diſpoſitions for Peace, and for inviting them to come to this Council-Fire, and for the further Aſſurances you make in Behalf of thoſe preſent, and of many more who are abſent, even ſome of whom you had little Expectations of, that all will be done in their and your Power to bring the ſame to a happy Iſſue.

A Belt.

Brother,

You have done well to conſider the antient Leagues ſubſiſting between you and this Government from its very firſt Beginning. I am pleaſed to hear you expreſs yourſelf ſo affectionately in Favour of the firſt Proprietor; he very well deſerves it at the Hands of all the *Indians*; he was always juſt and kind to them, and he gave it in Charge to his Governors, and to his Children, the preſent Proprietaries, to treat them, as he did, with the utmoſt Affection, and to do them all Manner of good Offices, which has always been done by them, as far as is come to my Knowledge.

As to myſelf, after the preſent Proprietaries had appointed me to this Government, they recommended the Care of the *Indians* to me in a very particular Manner; and I aſſure you, I ſhall be ready on all Occaſions to do the *Indians* every Service in my Power, and moſt heartily aſſiſt in bringing about a laſting and durable Peace.---I throw a large Log into the Council-Fire, that it may blaze up to the Heavens, and ſpread the Bleſſings of Peace far and wide; this Belt confirms my Words.

A Belt.

Brother Teedyuſcung,

What I am now going to ſay to you ſhould have been mentioned ſome Time ago: I now deſire your ſtrict Attention to it.

You was pleaſed to tell me, the other Day, that the League of Friendſhip made by your Fore-fathers was as yet freſh in your Memory; you ſaid that it was made ſo ſtrong that a ſmall Thing would not eaſily break it. As we are now met together, at a Council-Fire, kindled by us both, and have promiſed on both Sides to be free and open to one another, I muſt aſk you, how that League of Friendſhip came to be broken? Have we, the Governor, or People of *Pennſylvania*, done you any Kind of Injury? If you think we have, you ſhould be honeſt, and tell us your Hearts: You ſhould have made Complaints before you ſtruck us, for ſo it was agreed in our antient League: However, now the great Spirit has thus happily brought us once more together, ſpeak your Mind plainly on this Head, and tell us, if you have any juſt Cauſe of Complaint, what it is; that I may obtain a full Anſwer to this Point, I give this Belt.

A Belt.

Teedyuſcung thanked the Governor, and deſired Time to conſider till To-morrow, and he would give an Anſwer at ſuch Time as the Governor would be pleaſed to appoint.

The Governor deſired he would take full Time to conſider it, as it was a Matter of Conſequence, and let him know when he was ready; and deſired at the ſame Time he would offer what he had further to ſay on any other Matter.

At a CONFERENCE *held on* Saturday, November, 13, 1756.

PRESENT,

The Honourable WILLIAM DENNY, *Eſq; Lieutenant-Governor.*

WILLIAM LOGAN,
RICHARD PETERS, } Eſquires.

The ſame Commiſſioners, Gentlemen,
Officers, *Indians*, as before.

Teedyuſcung *ſpoke as follows, laying before him the ſeveral Strings and Belts given him Yeſterday by the Governor.*

Brother,

I REMEMBER Yeſterday by theſe Strings that you would have had a Conference ſooner, had you not expected that the *Indians* who were invited would have come to this Council.----I thank you for the kind Things you have ſpoke, and for reminding me of what paſſed in former Times; I will endeavour to tell you the Truth from the Bottom of my Heart, and hope you will have Patience to hear me; all I ſhall deliver ſhall be according to the Authority I have received, as thoſe who are now with me will witneſs.

Gave three Strings of black and white Wampum.

Brother,

The Times are not now as they were in the Days of our Grandfathers; then it was Peace, but now War and Diſtreſs; I am ſorry for what has happened, and I now take and wipe the Tears from your Eyes, as there is great Reaſon for Mourning. This I not only do on my own Part, but on the Part of the *Six Nations*, who will put their Seal to it.---I take away the Blood from your Bodies, with which they are ſprinkled: I clear the Ground, and the Leaves, that you may ſit down with Quietneſs: I clear your Eyes, that when you ſee the Day-light you may enjoy it.---I declare this not only for the *Indians* I repreſent, but for the *Six Nations*, who, with them, make up Ten in all, which have with us put their Hands to theſe Words.

Gave a Belt of nine Rows.

Brother,

Now I have done wiping your Eyes and Bodies, and cleaning the Ground where you ſit; I will alſo heal your Wounds, not only at the Top, but at the Bottom; I will apply to them the good Plaiſter which the Great Creator has made for theſe Purpoſes. I ſay I will heal the Wound, ſo as it may never break out more, but be compleatly cured; in this the *Six Nations* alſo join with me.

Gave a Belt of eight of Rows.

Brother,

Now as I have healed the Wound, our Caſe is like that of two Brothers; when one has been ſick, and has recovered his Health, it is uſual for the other to be glad; juſt ſo it is with me now: Your Wound is cured;—I am glad to ſee you Face to Face, as it has pleaſed the good Spirit to bring us together. I alſo remember every thing you have ſaid; and as to what I have ſaid, or ſtill have to ſay, the other Nations will confirm.

Gave a Belt of eleven Rows.

Brother,

I am now going to tell you ſomething in a few Words, in Anſwer to your Requeſt laſt Night, that I ſhould give you a true Account how I came to ſtrike you.

In the Beginning of the Confuſion and War that happened the Fall before this, I lived in the Middle of the Road leading from the *Six Nations* to *Philadelphia*, where I was ordered by my Uncles, to ſit down; and there I ſat in profound Peace, under no Apprehenſion of Danger; and when I looked towards *Philadelphia*, I ſaw my Brother the Governor, and nothing but Peace and Friendſhip; and when I looked the other Way towards my Uncles the *Six Nations*, every thing was alſo Peace there; ſo it was with me, until all at once a Man, whoſe Name is called *Charles Broadhead*, an Inhabitant of this Province, came to me at *Wioming*, and told me, as if he had ſuch a Meſſage from the Governor, that I had ſtruck my Brethren the *Engliſh*, which I denied over and over; and when I could not prevail with

1756. him to believe me, I took two Handſuls of Wampum, and deſired him to go down with them to the Governor, and aſſure him that it was not I, who ſtruck the *Engliſh*. I alſo deſired the Governor to let me know, what further Meaſures I ſhould take, to ſatisfy him and my Brethren the *Engliſh*, of the Truth of this.---I alſo deſired, by the ſame Meſſenger, that the Governor would take all the prudent Methods he could, to relate this to Colonel *Johnſon*, and to my Uncles the *Six Nations*, as I was under a good deal of Concern, that this Charge was laid againſt me.-----There were two Kings preſent, beſides me, who joined with me in the Meſſage; and I likewiſe deſired the Governor to ſend me Word, what to do, for which I waited, till I was out of Patience; and obliged to flee, and leave my Inheritance, on that Account.

Gave a String.

Brother,

According to your other Queſtion, or Requeſt, laſt Night, to know of me, why I ſtruck you, without firſt giving you a Reaſon for it; I will tell you the Truth, why I have unfortunately ſtruck you. I ſay, Brother, I will tell you the very Truth, in Anſwer to your Queſtion. I never knew any of our ancient Kings ever to have this in their Minds, I now tell you, that it came from a great King, at leaſt, I think ſo: The King of *England*, and of *France*, have ſettled, or wrought, this Land, ſo as to coop us up, as if in a Pen. Our fooliſh and ignorant young Men, when they ſaw the Proceeding of this Enemy, and the Things that were told them, believed them, and were perſwaded, by this falſe-hearted King, to ſtrike our Brethren the *Engliſh*.---According to your Deſire, I will now tell you the Truth, with an honeſt Heart, as far as is in my Power: After this unfortunate Management once prevailed, it is eaſy, for all you *Engliſh*, if you look into your Hearts, to find the Cauſe, why this Blow came harder upon you, than it would have otherwiſe done;---but this is not the principal Cauſe; ſome Things, that have paſſed in former Times, both in this and other Governments, were not well pleaſing to the *Indians*; indeed, they thought them wrong; but, as I ſaid before, they were not the principal Cauſe. Being aſked, in what other Governments, he anſwered, in the Province of *New-Jerſey*. Now, Brother, I have told you the Truth, as you deſired me, and alſo the Uneaſineſs of my Mind, becauſe I verily believe it was our Duty, to go to the very Bottom, be it as bad as it will, and that it is neceſſary we ſhould both open our whole Minds, to one another, that we may agree, to heal the Wound.

Gave a Belt of twelve Rows.

Brother,

When I was here at the laſt Treaty, I did according to what I promiſed. I took the Belt I received from this Government, and held it up to all the Nations I undertook to go to, and I took them all by the Hand (meaning, I invited them all to come to the Council-Fire.) One of the *Delaware* Nations, meaning the *Miniſink Indians*, now about *Fort Allen*, gave me this Belt, ſaying, he was glad to hear what I ſaid, and laid hold of the ſame Hand, meaning, he accepted the Invitation; but ſaid, he would only go Part of the Way, no further than to a certain Place, and there he would ſtay, but that I might proceed, for he would agree to whatever I did, being led by the ſame Hand, and giving me Authority to act for him, at this Council.

Then delivered the Belt, of ten Rows, given him by thoſe Indians, *who he ſaid were* Miniſinks.

Brother,

By this String I alſo let you know, that I would not have you think, I have finiſhed every Thing, at this Meeting though what I have now done, is of great Moment; if we are ſpared till another Day, that is, until next Spring, I will let you know ſomething further, in another Meeting, for you muſt be ſenſible we cannot, at one Time, finiſh a Thing, of ſo great Moment. In the mean time, I will uſe my faithful Endeavours to accompliſh every Thing for the Good of both of us.

Gave a String.

Then, pauſing a while, he ſaid he had forgot ſomething, and taking up the String again, he proceeded.

I will let you know, fully and freely, my Mind, and what is my Determination to do.---When I return into my Country, I will look about me, I will ſee and hear, for you.---If I hear of any Enemy, going towards you, I will ſend a ſuitable Meſſenger, to give you Notice, though it ſhould be at Midnight. I will alſo take every prudent Meaſure, to prevent any Danger that may befal you; perhaps, if the Enemy be but few, I may not come to know of it, but if the Number be great, I ſhall be the liklier to know it: However, be they more or leſs, I will let you know it.

Then laid down the String again.

Then the Governor deſired of *Teedyuſcung*, as he had mentioned Grievances received by the *Indians*, from this and other Governments, to let him know what they were, and to ſpeak his Mind freely and fully without any reſerve; upon which *Teedyuſcung* ſpoke as follows. 1756.

Brother,

You have not ſo much Knowledge of Things, done in this Country, as others who have lived longer in it, being but lately come among us.---I have not far to go for an Inſtance: This very Ground, that is under me (ſtriking it with his Foot) was my Land and Inheritance, and is taken from me by Fraud; when I ſay this Ground, I mean all the Land lying between *Tohiccon Creek* and *Wioming*, on the River *Saſquehannah*. I have not only been ſerved ſo in this Government, but the ſame Thing has been done to me, as to ſeveral Tracts in *New-Jerſey*, over the River. When I have ſold Lands fairly, I look upon them to be really ſold.---A Bargain is a Bargain.---Though I have ſometimes had nothing for the Lands I have ſold but broken Pipes, or ſuch Trifles, yet when I have ſold them, though for ſuch Trifles, I look upon the Bargain to be good: Yet I think I ſhould not be ill uſed on this Account by thoſe very People who have had ſuch an Advantage in their Purchaſes, nor be called a Fool for it. *Indians* are not ſuch Fools as to bear this in their Minds.---The Proprietaries, who have purchaſed their Lands from us cheap, have ſold them too dear to poor People, and the *Indians* have ſuffered for it. It would have been more prudent in the Proprietaries to have ſold the Lands cheaper, and have given it in Charge to thoſe who bought from them, to uſe the *Indians* with Kindneſs on that Account.

Now, Brother, hear me; ſuppoſing you had a Pipe in your Mouth, ſmoaking, of little Value; I come and take it from you; by and by, when you ſee me again, you remember it, and take a Revenge: I had forgot, and wonder at the Cauſe, and aſk you, Brother, Why you have done ſo? This makes me remember the Injury I did you, and more careful for the future. Now, although you have purchaſed our Lands from our Fore-fathers on ſo reaſonable Terms, yet now at length you will not allow us to cut a little Wood to make a Fire; nay, hinder us from Hunting, the only Means left us of getting our Livelihood.

Now, Brother, I am pleaſed you aſked me this Queſtion, having thereby given me an Opportunity of ſpeaking my Mind freely, as to any Uneaſineſs I was under.---You are wiſe enough to ſee theſe Things, and to provide a Remedy for them.

Then *Teedyuſcung* produced a Receipt from *William Parſons*, for a Bundle of Deer-ſkins he had ſent from *Fort Allen* as a Preſent to Governor *Morris*, and deſired Mr. *Peters* to let him know if he had received them for the Governor; which he ſaid he had.

He then aſked Mr. *Peters* what was done with the Memorandum he gave to Governor *Morris* when he was in *Philadelphia* in *April*, 1755, containing a Claim to a ſmall Pine Tract in *New-Jerſey*; to which Mr. *Peters* ſaid, that Governor *Morris* had promiſed to enquire into the Matter, and the Memorandum would be returned to him at any Time, with Governor *Morris*'s Report on it.

The Governor then aſked him, what he meant by Fraud; having ſaid his Lands were taken from him by Fraud, what it meant?

To which *Teedyuſcung* replied.---When one Man had formerly Liberty to purchaſe Lands, and he took the Deed from the *Indians* for it, and then dies; after his Death the Children forge a Deed like the true One, with the ſame *Indian* Names to it, and thereby take Lands from the *Indians* which they never ſold---this is Fraud. Alſo, when one King has Land beyond the River, and another King has Land on this Side, both bounded by Rivers, Mountains and Springs, which cannot be moved, and the Proprietaries, greedy to purchaſe Lands, buy of one King what belongs to the other---this likewiſe is Fraud.

The Governor then aſked *Teedyuſcung*, Whether he had ever been uſed in that Manner?

He anſwered, Yes;---I have been ſerved ſo in this Province: All the Land extending from *Tobiccon*, over the *Great-Mountain*, to *Wioming*, has been taken from me by Fraud; for when I had agreed to ſell the Land to the old Proprietary by the Courſe of the River, the young Proprietaries came, and got it run by a ſtraight Courſe by the Compaſs, and by that Means took in double the Quantity intended to be ſold.

Brother,

As you have deſired me to be very particular, I have told you the Truth, and have opened my Mind fully. I did not intend to ſpeak thus, but I have done it at this Time, at your Requeſt;

queſt; not that I deſire you ſhould now purchaſe theſe Lands, but that you ſhould look into your own Hearts, and conſider what is right, and that do.

The Governor thanked him for the Freedom and Openneſs he had uſed with him, and told him, when he was ready to ſpeak to him, he would let him know it.

At a COUNCIL *held at* Eaſton, November 14, 1756.

PRESENT,

The Honourable *WILLIAM DENNY*, Eſq; Lieutenant-Governor.

WILLIAM LOGAN, } Eſquires.
RICHARD PETERS, }

MR. *WEISER*, by the Governor's Order, attended the Council. The Minutes of Yeſterday's Conference were read over, and then each Paragraph by itſelf. Mr. *Weiſer* ſaid, he apprehended *Teedyuſcung*'s Relation, of what paſſed between him and *Charles Broadhead*, in a Light ſomething different from what was ſet down in the Minutes, *viz.* That *Charles Broadhead* had, in the Name of the Governor, charged on *Teedyuſcung* the Murders committed on the Inhabitants of this Province, and demanded Satisfaction for them; that the King denied the Charge, and ſent a Meſſage by him, with a Bundle of Wampum, to the Governor of *Pennſylvania*, to aſſure him of his not having committed Hoſtilities. And further, deſired he might receive Orders from the Governor what to do, promiſing to execute them faithfully; and if it ſhould be judged neceſſary, he would even go to Colonel *Johnſon*, and the *Six Nation* Country, with any Meſſage the Governor would pleaſe to ſend there by him, but deſired it might be ſent in a certain Number of Days, after which, if it did not come, he would take it for granted the Governor believed the Stories told of him.

The Governor enquired of Mr. *Weiſer*, into the Foundation of the Complaint made by the *Indians*, as to the Frauds ſaid to be committed in Purchaſes of Land made of them by the Proprietaries; and he told the Governor, That few or none of the *Delawares* preſent, as he could recollect, originally owned any of theſe Lands, or any Land in this Province; that if any Injury was done, it was done to others, who were either dead or gone, ſome to the *Obio*, and ſome to other Places.---That as to the Lands particularly inſtanced by *Teedyuſcung*, he heard that they were ſold to, and the Conſideration Money paid by, the firſt Proprietary, *William Penn*.---That when Mr. *John Penn* and Mr. *Thomas Penn* were here, a Meeting was then had, with the principal *Indians* living on theſe Lands, and the former Agreement renewed, and the Limits again ſettled, between the Proprietaries and thoſe Chiefs of the *Delawares*; and accordingly, a Line was ſoon after run by *Indians* and Surveyors. That the *Delawares* complaining afterwards, their Complaint was heard in a great Council of the *Six Nations*, held at *Philadelphia*, in the Year 1743, in which ſeveral Deeds, executed by the *Delawares* to the Proprietaries, were read, and interpreted, and the Signers Names and Marks examined; and, after a long Hearing, the *Six Nations* declared the Complaints of their Couſins, the *Delawares*, to be unreaſonable, and were very angry with them for complaining without Cauſe.

Mr. *Peters*, being aſked by the Governor, ſaid, he had likewiſe heard Things to the ſame Effect, and was preſent at the Council when the *Delawares* Complaints were heard and ſettled by the *Six Nations*; that it was a very large Council, conſiſting of the principal Chiefs of the *Delawares*.---And added, he believed when the Matter ſhould come to be well examined into, the Proprietaries would not be found to have done Injuſtice to the *Delawares*, or to hold any of their Lands, for which thoſe *Indians* had not given Deeds truly interpreted to them, and received a Conſideration.

But as neither Mr. *Weiſer*, nor he, was concerned in this Tranſaction, and the Papers to prove it were at *Philadelphia*, this Matter might, on the Governor's Return, be thorougly enquired into, and if it ſhould appear that Injuſtice had been done the *Delawares* in this, or any other of their Sales, they ought to receive Satisfaction.---After which the Governor propoſed to let the *Indians* know, that as to the particular Grievances they had mentioned, they ſhould be thorougly examined into, well conſidered, and, if juſtly founded, amply redreſſed as quickly as the Nature of the Buſineſs would admit.

1756.

But upon conferring with the Commiſſioners, he was told by them, that ſuch Promiſes had been frequently made the *Indians*, by Governors of other Provinces, and not performed, and theſe People might conſider them as now made, with a Deſign to evade giving them Redreſs.

The Commiſſioners ſaid further, as more Goods were brought, than were proper, at this Time, to be given to the ſmall Number of *Indians* come down, it would be better, whether the Claim was juſt or unjuſt, to offer them immediate Satisfaction, which they, on the Part of the Publick, with the Governor's Approbation, were willing to do, judging this would effectually remove all their Uneaſineſs. The Governor concurring with them in Sentiments, an Anſwer to their Complaints was framed accordingly.

At a CONFERENCE *held on* Monday, November 15, 1756.

PRESENT,

The Honourable *WILLIAM DENNY*, Eſq; Lieutenant-Governor.

WILLIAM LOGAN, } Eſquires.
RICHARD PETERS, }

The Commiſſioners, Officers,
Gentlemen, *Indians*, as before.

The Governor ſpoke as follows.

Brother,

YOU expreſſed your Concern for what had happened, wiped the Tears from our Eyes, and the Blood from our Bodies, and having made clean the Council Seat, I heartily thank you for it. I do likewiſe wipe the Tears from your Eyes; I waſh away the Blood from your Bodies, and from the Council Seat, that there may not remain the leſt Defilement,

A Belt.

Brother,

I make you my Acknowledgments for your having ſearched our Wounds to the Bottom; and the good Remedies you have applied for their Cure, and I pray the Great Creator may bleſs our mutual Endeavours, that they may be ſo effectually healed, as not to leave behind them the leaſt Scar, or ever break out again, whilſt the Rivers run, or the Sun and Moon give Light to the Earth.

A Belt.

Brother,

As to what you ſay, of the Meſſage delivered to you at *Wioming*, by *Charles Broadhead*, the Governor did ſend him, and I could have wiſhed you had ſent ſome of your own People to me, on ſo weighty an Occaſion; and for the future, I muſt caution you, not to hearken to any Meſſages, as from this Government, unleſs the Perſons charged with them are known to be publick Officers, uſually employed for ſuch Purpoſes, and the Papers they produce, are ſealed with the Seal of the Government.

A String.

Brother,

I thank you for the Openneſs, with which you have expreſſed yourſelves, as to the Cauſes why you ſtruck us. The *French* practiſe every Artifice, they are Maſters of, to deceive the *Indians*, and I am ſorry your young Men ſhould have been ſo fooliſh, as to have hearkened to them. I hope they have ſufficiently ſeen their Errors, and will not, hereafter, ſuffer themſelves to be ſo deluded, by that deceitful People.

A String.

The Governor taking the Belt given by the Miniſink Indians, *repeated what* Teedyuſcung *ſaid on it, and then anſwered it.*

Brother,

As I conceive this Belt to be your Authority, for acting at this Council-Fire, in Behalf of the *Miniſink Indians*, who only came Part of the Way, I will keep it, and put it into the Council Bag, being glad to hear they have put their Hand to the Belt I ſent, though I ſhould have been better pleaſed to have ſeen them here.

1756. *Brother,*

You give me Hopes of another Viſit. Aſſure yourſelf it will always give me Pleaſure to receive you, and any other of our *Indian* Friends with you. Your kind Offer of giving me timely Notice of the Approach of an Enemy, is an inconteſtable Proof of the Warmth of your Heart for me; and as you have ſo freely offered it, I ſhall ever have an entire Dependance upon you; and whatever Perſons are ſent, with Intelligence of this Sort, ſhall be handſomely rewarded. I expect and deſire you will give the ſame Intelligence to any other Governor whoſe Country you apprehend to be in Danger, as all the *Engliſh* are of the ſame Fleſh and Blood, and Subjects of the ſame King.

Gave a large String.

Brother,

I am very glad you have been as good as your Word, in coming down to the Council-Fire, which was kindled on this particular Occaſion. I believe you have uſed your beſt Endeavours, with great faithfulneſs, to effect every Thing you undertook. I heartily agree to the Peace, as you have propoſed it, provided all the *Engliſh* Colonies be included in it. But we cannot agree to make Peace, for this Government alone, and leave you at Liberty to continue the War with our Brethren of the neighbouring Colonies; for we, the *Engliſh*, are all Subjects of one great King, and muſt, for the future, be all at Peace, or all at War, with other Nations at the ſame Time.

A Belt.

Brother,

You may remember it was ſtipulated, in the Conferences held laſt Summer, that all the Priſoners you had taken, ſhould be brought to this Council-Fire, and there delivered up; and as you have only delivered up five Priſoners, and I am ſure many more have been taken, I deſire to know why they have not been brought; they are our own Fleſh and Blood, and we cannot be eaſy, whilſt they are kept in Captivity.

A String.

Brother,

You have opened your Heart, and ſhewn us the Reaſons, you thought you had, for differing with us: You have done well, in ſpeaking ſo plainly, on that Head; but you ſhould have made your Complaint to us, before you liſted your Hand to ſtrike, and that might have prevented the Miſchief. When the Great Creator made Man, he gave him a Tongue, to complain of Wrongs, two Ears, to hear a Brother's Complaints, and two Hands, to do him Juſtice, by removing the Cauſe.---All theſe were made, before the Hatchet, and ſhould be firſt uſed. Had the Man, in your Compariſon, whoſe Pipe was taken from him, ſaid, Brother, you took my Pipe from me, at ſuch a Time, and I muſt have Satisfaction; his Brother might have anſwered, I did not think you valued a Pipe ſo much, do not let us differ, about a ſmall Matter, here, Brother, take two of mine. That this Method, agreeable to our antient Treaties, may be remembered, and Complaints always made by you, to us, or by us to you, in a publick Manner, and Juſtice demanded, before we ſtrike, I give you this

String.

Brother,

I am but lately come among you; the Grievances you mention, are of old Date. If former *Indian* Kings have, as you ſay, ſometimes ſold more Land, than they had a Right to ſell, in ſo doing they injured us, and we, as well as you, have Cauſe to complain of them.---But ſometimes, though they ſold no more than their own, they ſold it fairly, and it was honeſtly paid for, by the *Engliſh*; yet, when the *Indian* Children grow up, they may forget that their Fathers ſold the Lands, and divided the Goods; and ſome evil Spirit, or bad Man, that loves to make Miſchief, may tell them, the Land is ſtill yours; your Fathers never ſold it; the Writings are falſe. Morever, many People, both *Engliſh* and *Indians*, concerned in the former Purchaſes of Lands, are now dead; and as you do not underſtand Writings and Records, it may be hard for me to ſatisfy you, of the Truth, though my Predeceſſors dealt ever ſo uprightly; therefore, to ſhew our ſincere Deſire to heal the preſent Differences, and live in eternal Peace, with you our Brethren, tell me, what will ſatisfy you, for the Injuſtice you ſuppoſe has been done you, in the Purchaſe of Lands in this Province; and if it be in my Power, you ſhall have immediate Satisfaction, whether it be juſtly due to you, or not. The good People of this Province are ready, and willing, to open their Hands, and help me, by contributing freely, to this good Work.---Or if you, are not impowered to receive ſuch Satisfaction, at this Time, or have not Convenience, to carry away the Goods, that may be given you on that Account, then, I will lodge the Goods, in ſuch Hands as you ſhall appoint, till you bring to our next Meeting, your old Men of the ſeveral Nations, who may have a Right to a Share in the Diviſion of thoſe Goods, where they ſhall be ready to be delivered to them and you. This may be done at a Council-Fire, to be rekindled at *Philadelphia*, for you and us, or here, as you ſhall chuſe, when we expect, and inſiſt, that you bring down all the Captives, that ſtill remain in your Country.

And as you mention Grievances, from the Neighbouring Governments, I make no Doubt, but on proper Application, you will have the utmost Juſtice done you; and if I can be of any Service to you, in making the Application, it will give me great Pleaſure; in Teſtimony whereof, I give you this 1756.

Belt.

Brother,

You told us laſt Summer, that, formerly, there were many *Indian* Chiefs, who made Treaties, ſome in one Place, and ſome in another, from whence, Miſunderſtandings had often aroſe.---It was ſo formerly, with the *Engliſh* Governments, each made War or Peace, with the *Indians*, for itſelf: They were not united in theſe great Affairs, as Subjects of the ſame King ought to be, and ſo were much weaker.---Our wiſe King has now ordered Things better, and put all *Indian* Affairs under one general Direction.---I ſhall ſend a full Account of all that has paſſed, between this Government and the *Indians*, on this preſent Occaſion, to Sir *William Johnſon*, to whom His Majeſty has been pleaſed to commit the general Management of *Indian* Affairs, for his Approbation and Ratification; and as this Gentleman, in Quality of being the King's general Agent in this Part of *America*, has, in Conjunction with your Uncles, the *Six Nations*, and all the Allies, kindled a general Council-Fire, at his Houſe, on the *Mohocks River*, I muſt inſiſt upon it, that *Teedyuſcung*, and a Deputation of your Chief Men, ſhall go to this Council-Fire, and there communicate every Thing, to obtain Confirmation, and take Advice, as to your future Conduct, that there may be a perfect Union, both of Council and Meaſures, as well, on the Part of all the *Indians*, as others his Majeſty's Subjects, without which, this great Work of Peace, will never be brought to its juſt Perfection.

A Belt.

Brother,

The good People of this Province, affected with the Diſtreſſes which their Brethren the *Indians* muſt needs ſuffer, in this ſevere Seaſon, for want of Clothes and other Neceſſaries, have furniſhed me with a Quantity of Goods, to the Value of *Four Hundred Pounds*, to ſupply their Wants; a large Part of them is given, by the People called *Quakers*, who are the Deſcendants of thoſe, who came over with *William Penn*, as a particular Teſtimony of their Regard and Affection for the *Indians*, and their earneſt Deſire to promote this good Work of Peace.

GOODS given at the Expence of the Province.

3 *Pieces of Blankets,*
1 *Piece of Matchcoat,*
1 *Piece of plain white Halfthicks,*
1 *Piece of napt Ditto,*
1 *Piece of purple Ditto,*
1 *Piece of Stroud,*
1 *Piece of Calicoe,*
1 *Groſs of Scarlet Garters,*
3 *Pieces of Ribbons,*
3 *Dozen of Taylors Shears,*
6 *Dozen of Cuttoe Knives,*
6 *lb. of white and black Beads,*
1 *Groſs of Womens Thimbles,*
1 *Groſs of Mens Ditto,*
1000 *Fiſh-hooks,*
100 *Large Ditto,*
100 *Large Fiſh-hooks,*
6 *Dozen of Tobacco Tongs,*
6 *Groſs of Morris Bells,*
5 *lb. of Vermillion,*
18 *Tin Kettles,*
20 *Shirts,*
6 *Hats,*
6 *Coats,*
2 *Groſs of Awl-blades,*
100 *lb. of Powder,*
200 *lb. of Lead,*
1 *Piece of black Stroud,*
2 *Pieces of Bandanoe Handkerchiefs.*
1 *Piece of blue Stroud, was alſo given among the five* Mohocks *and two* Shawaneſe, *and one Shirt to each.*

GOODS given at the Expence of the People called *Quakers.*

2 *Pieces of ſtriped Blankets,*
5 *Pieces of Matchcoat,*
2 *Pieces of Strouds,*
1 *Piece of purple Halfthicks,*
2 *Pieces of printed Calicoe,*
1 *Piece of ſtriped Calimancoe,*
4 *Pieces of flowered Silk Handkerchiefs,*
2 *Dozen of Worſted Caps,*
40 *Pairs of Yarn Mittens,*
1 *Groſs of Thimbles,*
5 *Parcels, about 6 lb. of Thread.*
3000 *Needles,*
2 *Pieces of Ribbon,*
24 *Small Braſs Kettles,*
8 *Tin Kettles,*
20 *White Shirts,*
10 *Green Frize Coats,*
10 *Hats,*
2 *Groſs of Bed-lacing,*
1 *Groſs of Gartering,*
200 *lb. of Tobacco,*
3 *Groſs of Pipes,*
48 *Weeding-hoes, for* Indian-Corn,
6 *lb. of ſmall Beads,*
6 *lb. of Barley-corn Ditto,*
3 *Dozen of ſmall Looking-glaſſes,*
12 *Silver Medals of King* GEORGE,
6000 *Black and White Wampum.*
A Horſe, Bridle and Saddle.

1756.

At a CONFERENCE *held at* Eaſton, November 16, 1756.

PRESENT,

The Honourable *WILLIAM DENNY*, Eſq; Lieutenant-Governor.

WILLIAM LOGAN, } Eſquires.
RICHARD PETERS,

The ſame Commiſſioners, Officers,
Gentlemen, *Indians* as before.

The Governor acquainted Teedyuſcung *that he was ready to hear him.*

Then Teedyuſcung, *taking a String of Wampum, ſpoke in theſe Words.*

Brother,

I DESIRE you will hear me a few a Words with Patience. You may remember I often deſired you to endeavour to apprehend me aright, when I am ſpeaking of Matters of Importance.

Brother,

Hear me with Patience; I am going to uſe a Compariſon, in order to repreſent to you the better what we ought to do.

When you chuſe a Spot of Ground for Planting, you firſt prepare the Ground, then you put the Seed into the Earth; but if you don't take Pains afterwards, you will not obtain Fruit.---To Inſtance, in the *Indian Corn*, which is mine (meaning a native Plant of this Country) I, as is cuſtomary, put ſeven Grains in one Hill, yet, without further Care, it will come to nothing, tho' the Ground be good; tho' at the Beginning I take prudent Steps, yet if I neglect it afterwards, tho' it may grow up to Stalks and Leaves, and there may be the Appearance of Ears, there will only be Leaves and Cobs.---In like Manner, in the preſent Buſineſs, tho' we have begun well, yet if we hereafter uſe not prudent Means, we ſhall not have Succeſs anſwerable to our Expectations.---God, that is above, hath furniſhed us both with Powers and Abilities.---As for my own Part, I muſt confeſs, to my Shame, I have not made ſuch Improvements of the Power given me as I ought; but as I look on you to be more highly favoured from above than I am, I would deſire you, that we would join our Endeavours to promote the good Work; and that the Cauſe of our Uneaſineſs, begun in the Times of our Forefathers, may be removed; and if you look into your Hearts, and act according to the Abilities given you, you will know the Grounds of our Uneaſineſs in ſome Meaſure from what I ſaid before, in the Compariſon of the Fire, that tho' I was but a Boy, yet I would according to my Abilities bring a few Chips; ſo with Regard to the Corn, I can do but little, you may a great deal; therefore let all of us, Men, Women and Children, aſſiſt in pulling up the Weeds, that nothing may hinder the Corn from growing to Perfection. When this is done, tho' we may not live to enjoy the Fruit ourſelves, yet we ſhould remember, our Children may live and enjoy the Bleſſings of this good Fruit, and it is our Duty to act for their Good.

A String.

Brother,

I deſire you will attend to theſe few Words, and I will, with all Diligence, endeavour to tell you the Truth; the great Log you mentioned, when kindled, will make a great Flame, but it will not kindle of itſelf, nor continue flaming, unleſs there be Air and Leaves, as well as Coals to make it kindle. I deſire we may uſe our utmoſt Endeavours to make it kindle, though what I have told you may relate to Matters diſagreeable to you, yet if we exert ourſelves, and act according to the Abilities given from above, the Event will be agreeable, and pleaſing to ourſelves, and of Service to our Children.

Brother,

Take Pains therefore, and though you are a Governor, do not put off theſe Things, from Time to Time, as our Forefathers did.

The Interpreter was deſired to tell, in other Words, what was the Meaning of what was ſaid in the two laſt Articles; and having requeſted Leave of *Teedyuſcung*, he ſaid, he alluded to the Beginning of the War; the Quarrels between the King of *France*, and the King of *England*, and their People, on both Sides, and that their young Men were deluded by the *French*; this was the firſt and principal Cauſe, tho' other Things helped, to make the Blow fall quicker and heavier

A String.

Brother,

I will now, in a few Words, according to my Abilities, give you an Anſwer. You deſired me to acquaint you what the Grounds of my Uneaſineſs were, and I complied, tho' it was not the main Thing which I came about. But when you put me in mind, I was pleaſed, for, before, I thought it not proper to mention it in theſe difficult Times; it was not the Cauſe of the Stroke, tho' it was the Foundation of our Uneaſineſs. Now, Brother, in Anſwer to your Queſtion, What will ſatisfy us? It is not uſual, nor reaſonable, nor can I tell you what the Damage is, and adjuſt, as in a Ballance, the true Value, at that Time, and theſe Times; formerly, it might be lighter, but being delayed, it is now the heavier; the Intereſt is to be added. Beſides, there are many more, concerned in this Matter, not now preſent; and tho' many, who have ſuffered, are now in the Grave, yet their Deſcendants feel the Weight, and the more now, for the Time they have waited.

Alſo, Brother, I require you would throw down the Fence, that confines ſome of my Brethren and Relations in the *Jerſeys*, that they may, if they ſee Cauſe, come and ſee their Relations. I do not want to compel any of them to come, or to ſtay, againſt their Will. If they are inclined to ſtay and live among the *Engliſh*, I am quite willing they ſhould come back again; but I want they ſhould come and ſee me, that thereby I may convince their Relations, and the other Nations afar off, that I am now treating with, that they are not Servants, but a free People.

I do not requeſt that all Men, Women and Children ſhould come; but ſome, or as many as may be ſufficient, to convince other Nations that they are not confined, but have Liberty, as well as we: In particular, one called *Philip*, he has a Wife, and Relations among us; to my Grief I heard he was carried to Goal, and there confined with ſome others, and put to Death; but I underſtand the Account of his Death was falſe. I deſire he may have Liberty to come and ſee his Relations. I alſo requeſt that you would apply to the Governor, on the other Side the River (*viz.* of the *Jerſeys*) and to uſe your utmoſt Endeavours with him, that he would give them Leave to come, and that they may come under your Protection, be they more or leſs, in the great Road to us opened, by this Province.

But though you ſhould not do this, yet I will uſe my utmoſt Endeavours to bring you down your Priſoners, there are only two in my Power. You may hear otherwiſe, but I declare I have no more than two in my Power: There are more in the Poſſeſſion of others, and theſe, with your Aſſiſtance, I may be able to bring down; and I will endeavour to gather and ſcoop in as many as I can, but I ſhall want your Help to do it.

Brother,

I have to requeſt you, that you would give Liberty, to all Perſons and Friends to ſearch into theſe Matters; as we are all Children of the Moſt High, we ſhould endeavour to aſſiſt and make uſe of one another, and not only ſo, but from what I have heard, I believe there is a future State beſides this Fleſh; now I endeavour to act, on both theſe Principles, and will, according to what I have promiſed, if the Great Spirit ſpare my Life, come next Spring, with as great a Force of *Indians* as I can get, to your Satiſfaction.

A String.

Brother,

By this String now delivered, and lying before you, I aſſure you I have ſpoken on all Matters, the beſt I could, according to my mean Capacity and Abilities. I ſhall depend on my Interpreter, who I believe is an honeſt Man, but I think it prudent, in order to prevent Miſunderſtandings, that I ſhould be furniſhed with a Copy of what is done, as well in the Conferences held here laſt Summer, as at this Time; for though I am not able to read, yet others may; it will be a great Satiſfaction to have it in my Power to ſhew to others what has paſſed between this Government and me: What is committed to Writing, will not eaſily be loſt, and will be of great Uſe to all, and better regarded; and I would have the Names and Seals of all that have been concerned in tranſacting this Buſineſs, put to it: I do not deſire a Copy now, but that it may be ready for me when I come again.---The Interpreter, *Pumpſhire*, informed the Governor, that what *Teedyuſcung* was going to ſay was not material, or of much Importance, as it related to himſelf; adding, though he might be conſidered as a ſimple Man, yet throughout all this Affair, he had acted uprightly and honeſtly.

Brother,

I will ſpeak in Favour of the Interpreter; he acted as ſuch, in Governor *Morris*'s Time, as well as yours; and I am pleaſed with his Conduct, on both Occaſions.---If we ſhould have any further Buſineſs to tranſact, I deſire he may be employed.---You know he lives in another Province, and is on that Account, at ſome Expence; reward him well, for his Services; and do it well, for my Sake; but I ſhall leave it to you.

Brother,

I have ſomething, though of no great Conſequence, yet to mention. I am in low Circumſtances, and have not Things ſuitable; I wiſh I had----however, I have fifteen Deer Skins, which, as I ſee you love to have your Hands covered, I preſent you, to make Gloves of, or for any other Uſe you ſhall think proper. Eighty fine large Ones, were brought at firſt, but on our Journey from *Diahogo* to *Wioming*, ſome of the *Indians* with me, were ſo diſcouraged by Alarms, that they returned home, and took with them all but the Fifteen, which, I deſire your Acceptance of.

The Governor returned him Thanks, and told him, he accepted of them as a Mark of his Affection, without regard to the Value of the Skins.---He then reminded *Teedyuſcung*, that it was intended the Goods ſhould have been delivered, Yeſterday, but as it grew late, and the Room in which they ſat at Dinner, was ſo ſmall, it was agreed they ſhould be brought here, and delivered, which was done, the Liſts read, and the *Indians* left to divide the Goods.

At a COUNCIL *held at* Eaſton, November 17, 1756.

PRESENT,

The Honourable *WILLIAM DENNY*, Eſq; Lieutenant-Governor.

WILLIAM LOGAN, } Eſquires.
RICHARD PETERS, }

THE Commiſſioners adviſing the Governor to fix, at this Meeting, the Sum to be given in full Satiſfaction of all Injuries done to the *Indians*, and to offer it to them now, Mr. *Weiſer* was ſent, to conſult with *Teedyuſcung*, if this would be agreeable; and Mr. *Weiſer*, having done ſo, reported, That the King declared againſt it, ſaying, he had no Power to take any Sum, tho' the Governor ſhould offer him never ſo much, the People; to whom the Land belonged, being abſent; but he would endeavour to bring as many of them down, as he could find, to the next Meeting, when it might be further conſidered.

Several Matters remaining to be mentioned to the *Indians*, the Governor ſent for *Teedyuſcung*, the four *Six Nation Indians*, the two *Shawaneſe*, and one or two *Delawares*, and in the Preſence of the Commiſſioners, and ſome other Gentlemen, he ſpoke as follows.

Brother,

Only one Thing of what was ſaid Yeſterday requires an Anſwer, which I am now going to give you.

By this String, you deſired me to make Application to the Governor of *Jerſey*, that the Fence might be broke down, which confined the *Indians*, and that they, or ſome of them, might have Liberty to go into the *Indian* Country, and correſpond with their Relations and Friends as formerly, and particularly to obtain this Liberty, for one *Philip*.

The Province of *Jerſey*, you know, is a different Government from this; I will uſe my beſt Endeavours with the Governor, to grant your Requeſt, but I apprehend I ſhall meet with this Difficulty, that as you have ſome of their People, Priſoners with you, before they grant your Requeſt, they will expect theſe ſhall be returned, which I think would be adviſeable for you to do; particularly, you have with you a Boy, whoſe Name is *Hunt*, taken near *Paulin*'s Kiln, in that Province, whoſe Mother is now, here, and requeſts he may be ſent down, among the firſt.

A String.

Brother,

I conſider you as the Counſellor, and Agent of this Province, and, as ſuch, obliged to aſſiſt us all you can. By this String, I confirm your Appointment.

A String.

Brother,

As our Priſoners may ſuffer, for Want of Clothes, and other Neceſſaries, in this ſevere Seaſon, we would wiſh to have them as ſoon poſſible, and to that End propoſe to ſend with you two Meſſengers, who may collect them together, and bring them down; and I deſire you will give them your Aſſiſtance, which will be a further Proof of your Sincerity.

A String.

N. B. Two of the Six Nation Indians *were employed in this Service.*

Brother,

If any of our *Indians* ſhall incline to come into the Province, and live among their Brethren, the *Engliſh*, I do now aſſure you, that they ſhall be kindly received and ſupported, and live together in one Place, the moſt convenient that can be got for the Purpoſe.

Or as there is now a ſtrong Fort at *Shamokin*, built at the Requeſt of your Uncles, the *Six Nations*, for the Protection of the Friendly *Indians*, I propoſe to have a Store of Goods in it, the Direction and Management of which will be given to an honeſt Man, who ſhall not be ſuffered to impoſe upon the *Indians*; and I ſhall be glad all our Friendly *Indians*, who are ſcattered and diſtreſſed in theſe troubleſome Times, will come and live near it; there they will be protected from the *French*; there they will have a large uninhabited Country to hunt in; and there they may be furniſhed with Clothes, and all other Neceſſaries of Life, at the eaſieſt Rates.

A String.

Brother,

You know that at the laſt Treaty the Road was opened for us to go to each other; I now give you this Belt to preſerve the Communication free and clear of all Obſtructions, let there be nothing in it that can hurt the Feet, or wound the Body of either.

A Belt.

Brother,

Since I ſet out, I have heard of the Death of ſeveral of our *Indian* Friends, by the Small-pox at *Philadelphia*, and particularly Captain *Newcaſtle*, is dead, who was very inſtrumental, and joined with you as Agent, in carrying on this good Work of Peace. I wipe away your Tears; I take the Grief from your Hearts; I cover the Graves; eternal Reſt be with their Spirits.

A String of Wampum, eleven black Strouds, with ſome Handkerchiefs.

Brother,

Peace is now ſettled between us, by the Aſſiſtance of the Moſt High; but the *Indians* in the *French* Intereſt ſtill commit Murders, on our Frontiers, and our Soldiers are in Purſuit of them. I deſire you will order your young Men not to ſtraggle about, but keep in the ſtraight Path to your Towns, ſo that they may not be miſtaken by our Soldiers, for *French Indians.*

Teedyuſcung thanked the Governor for his kind Speeches, and ſaid, he was very glad that the Governor had thought of ſending two Meſſengers with him, for the Priſoners, and promiſed to aſſiſt them.

After the Condolance made on Captain *Newcaſtle's* Death, the King made an Addreſs, as is uſual, to the other *Indians* on this mournful Occaſion: They continued ſilent for ſome Time, and then, one of the oldeſt of them ſpoke an Exhortation, in the Nature of a Funeral Oration; after which, *Teedyuſcung* expreſſed to the Governor, the great Satisfaction given to him at his condoling the Death of Captain *Newcaſtle*, who, he ſaid, was a good Man, and had promoted the good Work of Peace, with great Care; his Death would put him in Mind of his Duty, as it ſhould all of us.

He then ſpoke in a warm and pathetick Manner, in Favour of the Peace now ſettled, and implored the Aſſiſtance of the Moſt High, to bring it to Perfection.

The Governor underſtanding that ſeveral of the *Indians* inclined to ſtay, deſired *Teedyuſcung* to give him the Names of ſuch as would live with their Brethren the *Engliſh*.---*Teedyuſcung*, miſtaking the Governor, as if he had ſaid, they muſt ſtay, anſwered, ſmiling, he did not underſtand any *Indians* were to be forced to ſtay, but left to their Liberty. If the Governor wanted any to ſtay, and deſired it, he would ſtay himſelf, and his Wife and Family with him. The Governor ſet the Matter Right, thanked him, and wiſhed him well; took his Leave of him, ſaying, they had met and parted Friends, and he hoped they would meet again, as good Friends as now.

Teedyuſcung ſhewed great Pleaſure in his Countenance, and took a kind Leave of the Governor and all preſent.

By his Honour's Command,

RICHARD PETERS, Secretary.

EXTRACT

1756

EXTRACT *from the Minutes of the House of* REPRESENTATIVES *of the Province of* Pennſylvania, January 2[illegible], 1757.

"The four Provincial Commiſſioners, Members of this Houſe, who were appointed to "attend the Governor, at the late Conference with the *Indians*, at *Eaſton*, preſented a Paper, "to the Houſe, which was read, and is as follows, *viz.*

WE, the Committee, appointed to attend the Governor, at the Conferences with the *Indians*, at *Eaſton*, in *November* laſt, have peruſed the Copy of thoſe Conferences, drawn up and ſigned by the Secretary, and laid before the Houſe;

And as we apprehend it of Importance, to the Province, that the Complaints made by the *Indians*, whether juſtly founded or not, ſhould be fully repreſented, and their Senſe of them underſtood, we think it neceſſary to obſerve to the Houſe, that we conceive the Warmth and Earneſtneſs, with which they inſiſted on the Wrongs, that had been done them, in the Purchaſes of Land, are much too faintly expreſſed, in this Account of the Conference. That we were not preſent, at the palliating Hearſay Accounts, of the Walking Purchaſe, ſaid to be given the Governor, by Mr. *Weiſer*, and Mr. *Peters*, on the Fourteenth of *November*; tho', by the concluding Paragraphs, under that Date, it may ſeem, as if we were: But we well remember, that the Tranſaction of that Walk was, at *Eaſton*, univerſally given up, as unfair, and not to be defended, even from the Accounts of ſome of our own People, who were preſent at the Walking; even the Secretary, tho' he did ſay, that he *believed* Satisfaction was afterwards made the *Indians*, and that this was the only Inſtance, in which any Foundation of Complaint had ever been given them, yet, this, he allowed was (in his own Words) *unworthy of any Government*. We would farther obſerve, that, when *Teedyuſcung* claimed the Lands, even thoſe, on which the Conferences were held, no Objection was made, that neither he, nor any with him, had any Right to them; nor did we ever underſtand his Reaſon, for not accepting Satiſfaction to be, as repreſented in the ſecond Paragraph, under *November* 17, for that "*the People* to whom the Land belonged, were abſent,"---but, for that many of them were abſent, and thoſe who were abſent, had not impowered him to act for them, in that Matter; but he would endeavour to bring them in the Spring.

The Offer of the Commiſſioners to furniſh the Means of making the *Indians* immediate Satiſfaction, not being fully related, we think it neceſſary to add, That the Reaſons, we gave the Governor, for that Offer, were, 1. The Abſence, and great Diſtance, of the Proprietaries, who being the ſole Purchaſers of Land from the *Indians*, in this Province, ought, if the *Indians* were injured in ſuch Purchaſes, alone, to make the Satisfaction; but their Agents here had not the neceſſary Powers. 2. For that Promiſes [ſuch being propoſed] of enquiring into *Indian* Complaints, and doing them Right, hereafter, had been ſo often made, in other Governments, and ſo little obſerved, we imagined, they could be of no Weight, and would rather be looked upon as a Denial of Juſtice; and therefore, we thought it better, as their Demands are ſeldom very high, to make them immediate Reparation, for the Injuries, they ſuppoſed, they had received, and we would furniſh the Goods, and riſque the Proprietaries repaying their Value, to the Province. The Secretary then told us, that he thought our Propoſal, very conſiderate and well-judged; that he was ſure the Proprietaries would think themſelves obliged to us, and repay the Money with Thanks: The Offer was accordingly made, but not accepted, for the Reaſons abovementioned. We then waited upon the Governor in a Body, and acquainted his Honour, That as we had made the Offer, in Behalf of the Province, not from an Opinion that the Province ought to be at ſuch Expence, but from the apparent immediate Neceſſity of the Thing, and on Account of the Proprietaries Abſence as aforeſaid; ſo now, ſince the final Settlement of the *Indians* Claims was poſtponed, to the Spring, and there would be ſufficient Time, to write to the Proprietaries, and obtain their Orders to their Agents, for the Payment of ſuch Sums, as ſhould be found neceſſary, we looked on ourſelves and the Province as totally diſengaged, from that Offer, and expected that the Proprietaries would be wrote to, accordingly.

[illegible] ——

BENJAMIN FRANKLIN, JOSEPH FOX,
WILLIAM MASTERS, JOHN HUGHES.

A true Extract from the Minutes,
WILLIAM FRANKLIN, *Clerk of Aſſembly.*

Extract of a Letter from Sir Charles Hardy to Governor Morris dated 29th April 1756.

Last Night I received an Express from Sir William Johnson Inclosing me the Report of the Delagates from the Six Nations which I here inclose you a Copy of for your Information.

I think there is all the reason to hope this unhappy breach may be finally accomodated at the intended meeting at Onandagoe, and I most heartily Congratulate you on this good Prospect. Whether this Accomodation will extend to the Delawares settled on the Ohio or confined to those on the Susquahannah may be a Question, I had some Conversation yesterday with the Half King on this Particular, he tells me he thinks the whole may be brought [illegible] about, though he believes some difficulty may attend the Negotiation with the Ohio Delawares. I shall write Sir William Johnson upon it and press him to urge a Confirm'd Peace, and a Renewed Alliance with them all at this Meeting.

Sir William in his Letter says. "As the Delawares
" and Shawonose Indians have proposed this Meeting at Onondago
" referr'd ultimately to it and given me so pressing an Invitation
" to meet them there, I am inclined to believe them sincere in
" their Promise to cease from further Hostilities, and disposed
" to renew and strengthen their Alliance and friendship with
" us, this I think to be at least the Case with the Majority of
" them – That the French have Debauched some of them totally
" from our Interest and will employ them in harrassing our
" Frontiers is very probable, and that some attacks may be
" made upon the Frontiers, since these Delagates were with
" them is not unlikely, as they had some Parties out who were
" ignorant of the Negotiations which had passed between
" their Chiefs and the Delagates of the Six Nations. But

however

---

the Chiefs of the Delawares and Shawanese : This you must be sensible

" however these will be informed of what is agreed on and I hope a
" trust will Act in Conformity."

One of the reasons assigned by the Delawares to the

Six

At a Council Held at Philadelphia Wednesday 5th May 1756

Present

James Hamilton	Robert Strettle	Esquires
Benjamin Shoemaker	Joseph Turner	
Benjamin Sue	John Mifflin	
Thomas Caldwaleder	Richard Peters	

The Secretary informed the Council that the Express sent last thursday Morning to General Shirley for a Supply of Arms was Returned and had Brought two Letters from his Excellency directed to the Governor on his Majestys Service which were opened and are as follows

A Letter from General Shirley to Governor Morris

Sir New York May 2d 1756

I am favoured with your Letter of the 28 of April and have there upon sent Orders to the Comptroller of his Majestys Ordnance at Boston to deliver 600 Stands of Arms with a propper Proportion of Amunition to any Person who Shall be Authorised by your Honours Goverment to receive and indent for the same on behalf of the Province according to the Tenour of the inclosed Form of Indent—

Inclosed I have sent you a Copy of the Vote of the Massachusetts Assembly upon this Occasion which your Honour may follow as far as you like it

Wishing you Success in all your Undertakings for the Present Service

I am with Great Regard and Esteem—

Sir

Your Honours most Humble
and most Obedient Servant

William Shirley

Vote of the Massachusetts Assembly inclosed in the foregoing Letter

Province of the Massachusetts Bay } In the House of Representatives April 17th 1756

Whereas his Majesty has been Graciously Pleased to Order ten Thousand Stands of Arms to be Employed for the Service of his Colonies as from time to time there shall be Occasion & it is required that Each Colony to which any of those Arms Shall be Delivered do Give Security to return them to the officer his Majesty has been Pleased to Appoint except in Case of there being lost in Battle or Taken or Destroyed by the Enemy and it being Necessary that Some Person Should be Appointed to Receive the proportion of Said Arms which may be Allotted for this Goverment—

Voted that the Comisary General of this Province be & hereby is Appointed to Receive the same & that the Government will Stand Security for Returning to Officer his Majesty has been

Pleased

to Appoint as Aforsaid any Number of said Arms which May be Delivered to the said Comissary Except in case of their being lost in Battle or Taken or Destroyed by the Enemy & that the said Comissary be impowered to Indent Accordingly—

Sent up for Concurrence

T: Hubbard Speaker

In Council April 17th 1756 Read & Concured

Thomas Clarke Dp^{ty} Secretary

Consented to

William Shirley

Another Letter from General Shirley to Governor Morris

New York May 2^{d} 1756

Dear Sir

I think it a piece of Justice to you to transmit you the Inclosed Copy of a Letter I received from Sir William Johnston two Days ago

As far as I can Comprehend the Effect of your Declaration of War against the Delawares and Shawoneese Indians it is Confined within the Limits proposed to you by the Delegates from Indians of the five Nations with whom you Confered at Philadelphia & under the Restrictions desired by them—

If there should appear any thing to you upon a Reconsideration of this Matter which May Make it advisable for you to Suspend Hostilities against the Indians Affected by Your Declaration of War until the Result of Sir William Johnston Meeting the Indians at Onondaga is known I doubt not but that you will think it a prudent measure

I must Apprise you that before I received Sir William Johnstons Letter Sir Charles Hardy made the Same remark to me upon the Declaration of War that is contained in the Letter so that Sir William Johnston seems to have taken it from him otherwise I should be apt to imagine that the Letter was Dictated by the Vanity and Impertinance of Sir William Johnston's conceited Secretary and I cant avoid saying that the Treatment of you Carries an Assuming Insolent Air in it

As you must know what Real Effect this Embassy from the five Nations to the Delawares and Shawonese has had concerning which Sir William Johnston assures me that it had most Happily put an End to their Hostillities against the Inhabitants of Your Province I would beg the favour of you to inform me of it in a particular Manner that I may be Ascertained how far this Declaration of his is to be Depended upon and How far it is only pretence and Assuming a false Merit to him Self

It would have been a great Pleasure to me to have Seen you here But I am Satisfied it must have Interfered with his Majesties Service in your own Government and your Comunication of Your Sentiments to me in Your Letter of the 25th of April for which I am Obliged to you and will in Some Measure Supply Your Absence—

I congratulate you upon the Late Wonders you have Wrought among the Quakers In passing thro Stainford M^{r} Lloyd a very Worthy man pressing me much to ask a favour of You which I take the Liberty to do: The People of the Church of England in that Town have with a great

Expence to themselves as they can bear begun to Build a Church and can find no other Scheme of Carrying it than by a Lottery Mr. Lloyd informs me that Lotteries are Absolutely forbid in the Government of Connecticutt, but that one may be had in Pensylvania upon the Payment of a Fine one Half of which Goes to the Governor The favour they would Ask of your Honour is to be So far their Benefactor as to Remit your own Part of the Fine towards Enabling them to finish the Church: Tho I well know my Dear Sir: that you dont much Trouble yourself about Church Building yet I am persuaded your Natural Generosity of Temper and Good Disposition of Hart towards helping any Sober Community in Effecting a Work which will Make them Happy and has a Tendency to promote Religion and Good Order will Stroongly Prompt you to Give up your perquisite in the Case of their proposed Lottery and I Shall Eteem myself oblidged to you for being so Good and Letting me know it in a Line, inclosed to Mr. Livingstone and Directed to me at Albany for which Place I Shall Embark this Afternoon

I am with Great Truth Dear Sir your
Affectionate & faithfull Humble Servt.

William Shirley

The Secretary further informs the Council that Saturdays Post Brought a Letter from Sir Charles Hardy of the 25th. April with Some Indian Minutes of what had passed on the the 22d. of that Month between Sir William Johnston & a Deputation of three Sachems & fifteen Warriors what he had forwarded to the Governor at Harises Ferry having first Taken Coppies of them with Intention to Lay them before the Council & they were Read in these Words

A Letter from Governor Hardy to Governor Morris

Sir

Fort George New York April 25th 1756

I have your favour by Mr. Claus & am oblidged to you for the Perusal of yours to Sir William Johnston which I have Shut and Shall return to Mr. Claus who Leaves this City to Day and the Indians with him

Last Night I received an Express from Sir William Johnston Inclosing me the Report of the Delagates from the Six Nations which I here Inclose you a Copy of for your Information

I think there is all the Reason to hope this Unhappy Breach may be finally Acomodated at the Intended Meeting at Onondaga and I most Heartily Congratulate you on this Good Prospect: Whether this Acomodation will Extend to the Delewares Settled on the Ohio or Confine to those on the Susquehannah may be a Question, I had Some Conversation Yesterday with the Half King on this Particular, he tells me he thinks the whole may be Brought about though he beleaves some Difficulty may attend this Negociation with the Ohio Delewares I Shall Write Sir William Johnston upon it and press him to Urge a Confined Peace and a Renewed Alliance with them all at this Meeting

Sir William in his Letter to me Says as the Delaware & Shawonese Indians have Proposed this Meeting at Onondaga referr'd Ultimately to it, and Given me so pressing an Invitation to Meet them there I am Inclined to beleave them Sincere in their Promise to Cease from from further Hostilities and Disposed to Renew & Strengthen their Alliance and friendship with us this I think at Least to be the Case with the Majority of them That the French have Debauched Some of them Totally from our Interest and will Employ them in Harassing our Frontiers is Very Probable and that Some Attacks may be Made upon the Frontiers Since these Delagates were with them is not Unlikely as they had Some Parties out who were ignorant of the Negociations which had Paſsed between there Chiefs & the Delagates of the Six Nations. But However these will be informed of what is Agreed on and I hope will Act in Conformity—

Sir William Johnston tells me he is Sorry you have Declared the Delawares Enemies and thinks if a Warr is Prosecuted by your Government before the Effect of the Onondag Meeting is known it may Defeat his Measures relative to those Indians at the Intended Meeting

I shall only beg leave to Make this Observation that as it is Uncertain how far this Accomodation may Extend to the Indians Settled on the Ohio. The French have a Number and a Mixture of Various Nations who live about their forts near that River these may Probably be looked Upon as Delawares and Shawonese and no Doubt some of them are of those Nations and Tho we have Strong Reasons, to think those our most Inveterate Enemies and that they will most likely Continue so. Should the Six Nations look upon them in this Light or the Delaware's and Shawonese Urge to them this Meeting, that while this Negociation is on foot the English are Carrying on Warr Against them. Such a Measure may not Embarraſs Sir William and Lay him under Difficulties in Bringing this Matter to such an Explanation, as may clearly Enable us to Diſtinguish our Friends from our Enemies Thus far Sir I have Given You my Thoughts on this Important Subject which I freely refer to your Consideration & shall to the Utmost of my Power Give Every Aſsistance to bring this Matter to a Happy Iſsue an Event that Must from its Good Consequences restore Peace & Tranquillity to the Provinces and More fully Enable them to Prosecute the Just & Neceſsary Warr Against the French

General Shirley arrived here Last Night and I beleave will make but a Short Stay with us

I am Sir

Your most Obedient &
Humble Servant
Chas. Hardy

P.S. Four Mohawks has been down to Invite
our River Indians to settle with them
& they have agreed to go with their
families the Middle of this Month

The Report of the Delegates from the Six Nations inclosed in the foregoing Letter follows in These Words

A Deputation from the Onondagas of Two Sachems & fifteen Wariors

Peter Wraxall Secry.
Arent Stephens Interpr.
Tiogwanta Speaker

Brother Warraghiyagey

We are very Sorry for your Loſs at the Carrying Place and as we doubt not you are oppreſs with Grief on this Occasion we do with this Belt of Wampum Wipe away the Tears from your Eyes and Clear your Throat that you may Speak to us with Ease & freedom, and we Clean away the Blood that hath been Spilt that we may Conferr together with our Usual Confidence & Satisfaction

Gave a large Belt of Black Wampum

Brother

At our Late public Meeting you put the five Nations in Mind that the Delaware Shawonese

Indians were Under their Government and Direction and you Enjoin'd us to Send to them to Express our Disapprobation and Resentment for the Bloody Hostilities which they had and were Daily Committing Against our Brethren the English in these Parts and that we shou^d Order them to Cease from those Violences, and live in that Friendship and Harmony with our Brethren the English as they Were wont to Do, and they should turn the Edge of their Hatchets along With You and us Against Our Common Enemies the French and their Indians

We have been to them and Delivered What You Gave Us in Charge, and We have Succeeded by Convinceing them that they have acted very foolishly and Unjustifiably and they have Promised & Agreed to Join their Arms with us in Conjunction with you against our Common Enemies but at the Same Time they Earnestly desire that they May see & Talk with You at Onondaga the Fire Place of the Five Nations and that if you will meet them there it will Convince them of your Good Desire to live with them in Harmony and Friendship and that You and that you intend to behave to them as Friends and Allies, and the Five Nations Join with them in this Request as they Propose to have a great Meeting there and as the Present Times are so Troublesome, and the General Welfare so Precarious we Desire You Will fix upon as Early a day as possible to meet us at Onondaga. As this Meeting will be of so Great Importance to the common Cause we must Press upon you to be Present at it, and that with as little delay as Possible and that you will bring Your Neighbours the Mohawks of Both Castles along with You. We would willingly now take you by the Hand with us but if this Cannot be done we must beg you will tell us What Day You will be at Onondaga, that we may Summons the Six Nations, the Delewares and Shawonese and our Several Allies to Come punctually at the Time you shall fix upon—

Delivered a Belt of Invitation

Sir William Johnstons Answer

Brethren

I am very Glad to find that your Remonstrances to the Delewares and Shawonese Indians have had the desired Effects and that they not Only repent of their Cruel and unjust Behaviour towards their Brethren the English, but now perceive what is their true Interest and Duty and are disposed to Join with you & us Against the Common Enemy. Agreeable to their Request and your Urgent desire I Promise to come up to the Intended Meeting at Onondaga and to be there in Twenty days from this Day. There are Several Reasons which Prevent my Going with you now or to Attend Sooner one of Which is that I have been lately Called three Times to the German Flatts at Oneida Carrying Place by which means I have a great deal of Business upon my Hands which must be Attended to before I can leave home Again.

I shall Give Timely Notice to the Mohawks of Both Castles to be Ready to Go when I call upon them—

A true Copy examined by me

Benj^n Barons

Pennsylvania 1756

A Letter from Sir William Johnston to General Shirley

Fort Johnston 24th April 1756

Sir

My Letter of Yesterday to Your Excellency I dispatched this Morning but I forgot to Mention one thing to you which of Great Importance

Sir Charles Hardy Writes me that Governor Morris by the Publick Prints had Declared Warr Against the Delewares & Shawonese Indians. I am Surprised that Mr. Morris whose Province was so much Interrested in the Result of the Six Nations Embaſsy to those Indians, who was a Principal in it and to whom I sent a Copy of my late Proceedings would not wait to hear the Effects of this Embaſsy before he Entered into this Consequential Measure —

What will the Delawares & Shawonese think of Such Opposition, and Contradiction in our Conduct. How shall I behave at the Approaching Meeting at Onondaga not only to those Indians but to the Six Nations these Hostile Measures which Mr. Morris has Entered into is Throwing All our Schemes into Confusion, and Must Naturally Give the Six Nations such Impreſsions and the French Such Advantages to Work on Against us that I tremble for the Consequence. I think without Consulting your Excellency without the Concurrence of the Other Neighbouring Provinces without my receiving Previous Notice of it this is a very unadvised and Unaccountable Proceeding of Governor Morris I cannot but be of Oppinion if terms of good Accomodation can be Brought about that in the present Critical Situation of Affairs it will be far more Eligible than to Enter into Hostillities against these Indians Especially as a few days will Determine what Part we have to Chuse.

I hope Your Excellency will take this Interesting Affair into Your Consideration and Make use of Such Interpositions as you Shall Judge Neceſsary there Upon.

I am
Sir
Your Excellencys
Most Obedient
Humble Servant
Wm. Johnston

On Reading the foregoing Letter of Sir William Johnston to General Shirley wherein he Blames Governor Morris for Issuing his Declaration of Warr against the Delewares and Desires the Interpoſition of Mr. Shirley and Perusing the several Transactions betwen the Indian Deputies and Sir William Johnston as set forth in Sir Charles Hardys Letter to Governor Morris to Gether with with what General Shirley has been Pleased to Say in his Letter on this Subject the the Council Were of Oppinion that that they Should Advise the Governor to Publish a Ceſsation of Hostilities against the Delawares until the Result of the Meeting of the Indians at Onondaga Should be Known, but before this be done it might be of Service and tend to Quiet the Minds of the Back Inhabitants if the Governor would be Pleased to call some of the most Principal and most Discreet of those Inhabitants together & Communicate to them the several Transactions that had Paſsed between the Indians and Sir William Johnston and Satisfy them of Expidiciency of this Measure in Regard to the Six Nations who Might turn Against us if we Slighted a Matter brought by them to Such a Sujeneſs and Likewise that he would be Pleased to Give it in particular Charge to Colonel Clapham to see that the Forces Under his Command should conform to the Suspension of Arms both in their March and Whilst at Shamokin.

It was then Considered as the Delewares on the Ohio were Still in open Warr and a grand Attack might be Expected to be made this Month from that Quarter on the Frontier Inhabitants whether the Ceſsation should Extend to them, and it was after Long Consultation agreed it should but an Account coming from the Post Master of Annapolis that these Indians had Penetrated and Were Destroying the Inhabetants of Virginia twelve miles Within Winchester & it being known from former Accounts that they had Laid Waste the Conolloways and a Great part of Conegocheague and had very lately Defeated forty Regular Forces at Fort Cumberland and were Determined to Attack that fort the Matter was Reconsidered and agreed to advise the Governor to Confine the Ceſsation of Arms to the Susquehannah Indians.

It was likewise Thought Propper to write a Letter to General Shirley and Instructions were Given to the Secretary for that Purpose and he was desired to Prepare a Letter against Tomorrow Morning Nine o Clock The Letters & Papers Respecting the Supply of Arms were then Considered and Mr. Hamilton with Mr. Mifflin were Desired on the Part of this Government to Execute an Indented Bond agreeable to the form Sent which was done in the Presence of Mrs. Turner and Mr. Peters who Attested the Execution thereof Mr. Chew the Recorder of the City and he Certefied it Accordingly Mr. Mifflin was Requested to Write the Necesary Letters to his Correspondents at Boston and Give the Proper Credit for the Shipping of them and to Preſs Dispatch as the Arms were so much Wanted here.

The Persons which Conducted Newcastle Jagrea William Luquis Returned yesterday and Delivered to the Secretary a Letter from Mr. Spangenburg Directed to the Governor which was opened & Read in the following Words—

May it Please your Honour Bethel: May 2d: 1756

I arrived at Bethelham the 28th 1st Month and Communicated with our Indians your Honours Desire that one or another of them might go With the Meſsengers, who were sent by your Honours Order to the Indians at the Susquehannah and would soon be with us at Bethleham in their way thither. Augustus a Delawares al. George upon Serious Consideration upon Going and not being Ignorant of Many Dangers, he might Happen to Meet with: he called his Wife Mother in Law and two Sons together and Declared to them his Last Will in Case he should be either Killed or Hindred some how from Coming Back again viz. that they should continue with our Saviour With whom he was Determined to

Abide, as long as he had Flesh & Skin Upon his Back and that they should not Leave the Brethren

Jegrea had Company came to Bethleham the Same Day and when I presented to them the said Augustus they were very Much Pleased with him He being a Man of Good Juggement of an honest Countenance and well Acquainted with the Woods Up that way to Wiomink and so they are Gone together Yesterday to Fort Allen: and Tomorrow they will Proceed from thence in their Journey to the Susquehannah. I thought them all in greater Danger of being Hurt in the Irish Settlement than any where Else in all the Province and therefore I did desire James Ennis and Thomas Apty not to leave them till they were at Fort Allen and so they went along. Mr Edmunds. David Zeisberger George Klein, and Stephen Blum all of Bethleham went allso with them to Fort Allen; the Sheriff of this County not being at Home at the Time of Setting off—

We have Used them well at Bethleham and have Shewed them So Much Kindness as they were Able to Accept of and I think they went away very well pleased their Last Declaration as well at Bethelham as at Fort Allen which he Also Wanted me to write to your Honour was as follows Viz

"We do Remember very well the words the Governor hath put in our mouths, and will Deliver them faithfully, may be this Affair will take up some time twenty if not thirty or thirty five Days if we do not Return in that time, be sure that we are Either Killed or that the Danger is Such that that we cannot get thro. But if we can we will go directly to Thomas Magees, and so on to the Governor for so he hath Ordered us to do; and so we will do, if we can, but if Either the White People or the Bad Indians are in the way that we cant go down the Susquehannah by Water then we will come by Fort Allen and Bethleham back Again—

"If we should happen to loose our Flag and Passport [for the man that Carries it may be Shott; and the Others may be forced to fly for their Lives] then we will come to the Forts or any of them, and our Token Shall be a Clubd Musket and Green Boughs in our Hats

"If we meet with bad Indians in the Woods and Some of us be Killed you may Expect any one that Escapes in Ten days if we do not Return in such a Time that you may think that we are Luckely Arrived

"If we dont come in Twenty days then let the Captains of Each Fort look out for us Fifteen days which in all makes thirty five days and we will not come in the night to any of the Forts

Now this is humbly to request your Honour that if they come down to Harris ferry to meet your Honour there Augustus may have your Honours Passports, and be Safely Conducted by Proper and Careful Officers to Bethleham Again for so much I have Promised him and he Expects it from your Honour.

I am
Your Honours

Humble Servant

Spangenberg

four feet of wh.ch to be sunk in the ground well rammed & rounded, two sides of each stockade to be squared so as they may stand close to each other, proper loop holes to be cut at four feet distance the height from the ground to [illegible]; two good Block houses to be built at either of the opposite corners, each Block house to be twenty four feet square, below the upper part above the Beams to project a foot so as Men may fire down upon the Enemy.

You are to cover the Block houses, shingle the Roofs & build a good Sentry Box on the top of each of them. Two strong gates of Oak Plank 3 Inches thick to be hung up in the proper places with strong Iron hinges. You are to keep an exact account of the number of days each Man works & take care that they work faithfully.

Likewise you are to take care that none of your party quarrel with or use any of the Indians ill or sell them any Liquor at their peril.

Given under my hand at Fort Johnson this 30 day of April 1756.

Wm Johnson

Fort Johnson Wednesday 5 May 1756

At a Meeting of several of the Six Nations arrived here from Philadelphia, to wit, Oneidas, Senecas, Cayougas, Tuscarores & Schohare Indians (amongst whom was Scarooyady & the half King) with several of their Women & Children

Sr William Johnsons Speech.

Arent Stevens Int.r

Brethren

I heartily bid you welcome here to the fire place of the Six Nations. I am extreamly glad

6

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[illegible]

[illegible] of great [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

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[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] the night [illegible]

[illegible] when I [illegible] that [illegible]

with them, I have [illegible]

[illegible] of peace [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] the night.

[illegible]

[illegible] the Indians.

be pleased to give your Orders for that Purpose to those who have the Charge of them. No Province, I assure your Excellency, can want a Supply of Arms so much as this, apprehensive as we are of an attack from the Ohio every Day, and as I hope these Arms are graciously sent by his Majesty for the Defence of the Colonies, I can rely on your Excellency's Goodness to extend this Favour, and to issue your Orders by the bearer, who will go with all Dispatch to Boston with them, and pay the Charges of Shipping. But if they are come under such circumstances that they must be paid for, if the persons who have the charge of them will signify to me in what mode they would chuse to be paid, I will immediately order the Payment as they shall direct, with the utmost punctuallity.

"It gives me no small Concern that my Affairs here will not permit me to wait on you at New York.

"I am setting out for the Frontiers, in order to hasten away the Forces that are designed for Shamokin.

"I am, Sir, Your Excellency's most Obedient humble Servant,

"ROBT. H. MORRIS."

Mr. Peters wrote by the Express to Mr. William Alexander, Captain Morris, Aid-de-Camp, and Captain Ord, to favour the Application.

MEMORANDUM.

The Governor ordered Mr. Peters to draw up a Proclamation for a Fast, and to send it to him, which was done, shew'd to the Members of the Council, approved by them, Vist.: Mr. Chew, Mr. Strettell, Mr. Cadwalader, and Mr. Turner, and sent to the Governor with a Letter acquainting him that unless they heard to the contrary from him, it would be put into the next Gazette, and it was sent by Captain Lloyd.

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Wednesday, 5th May, 1756.

PRESENT:

James Hamilton,	Robert Srettell,	Esquires.
Benjamin Shoemaker,	Joseph Turner,	
Benjamin Tue,	John Mifflin,	
Thomas Cadwalader,	Richard Peters,	

The Secretary informed the Council that the Express sent last Thursday morning to General Shirley for a Supply of Arms, was returned and had Brought two letters from his Excellency, directed to the Governor on his Majesty's Service, which were opened, and are as follows:

A Letter from General Shirley to Governor Morris.

"New York, May 2nd, 1756.

"Sir:

"I am favoured with your Letter of the 20th of April, and have thereupon sent orders to the comptroller of his Majesty's Ordinance at Boston, to deliver 600 stands of arms, with a propper Proportion of Ammunition to any Person who shall be authorized by your Honour's Government to Receive and indent for the same on behalf of the Province, according to the Tenour of the inclosed Form of indent.

"Inclosed I have sent you a copy of the vote of Massachusetts assembly upon this Occasion, which your Honour may follow as far as you like it.

"Wishing you Success in all your undertakings for the Present Service, I am, with Great Regard and Esteem,

"Sir, Your Honour's most Humble and most Obedient Servant,

"WILLIAM SHIRLEY."

Vote of the Massachusetts Assembly inclosed in the foregoing Letters:

"Province of the Massachusett's Bay:

"In the House of Representatives, April 17th, 1756.

"*Whereas*, his Majesty has been Graciously Pleased to Order ten Thousand Stands of Arms to be employed for the Service of his Colonies, as from time to time there shall be occasion, and it is required that Each Colony to which any of those Arms shall be Delivered, do Give Security to return them to the officer, his Majesty has been Pleased to appoint, except in case of their being lost in battle, or Taken or destroyed by the Enemy; and it being necessary that some Person should be appointed to Receive the proportion of said Arms which may be allotted for this Government;

"Voted that the Commissary General of this Province be & hereby is appointed to receive the same, & that the Government will stand Security for Returning to officer his Majesty has been Pleased to Appoint as aforesaid, any Number of said Arms which may be Delivered to the said Commissary, except in case of their being lost in Battle or Taken or Destroyed by the Enemy, & that the Said Comissary be impowered to Indent Accordingly.

"Sent up for Concurrence.

"T. HUBBARD, Speaker.

"In Council, April 17th, 1756, Read & Concurred.

THOMAS CLARKE, Dp^{ty} Secretary.

"Consented to.

"WILLIAM SHIRLEY."

Another Letter from General Shirley to Governor Morris.

"NEW YORK, May 2d, 1756.

"Dear Sir:

"I think it a piece of justice to you to transmit you the Inclosed Copy of a Letter I received from Sir William Johnson two Days ago.

"As far as I can Comprehend the Effect of your Declaration of War against the Delawares and Shawonese Indians, it is Confined within the Limits proposed to you by the Delegates from Indians of the Five Nations, with whom you confered at Philadelphia, & under the Restrictions desired by them.

"If there should appear any thing to you upon a Reconsideration of this Matter, which may make it advisable, for you to Suspend Hostilities against the Indians, affected by your Declaration of War, until the Result of Sir William Johnston meeting the Indians at Onondaga is known, I doubt not but that you will think it a prudent measure.

"I must Apprise you that before I received Sir William Johnston's Letter, Sir Charles Hardy made the same remark to me upon the Declaration of War that is contained in the Letter, so that Sir William Johnston seems to have taken it from him, otherwise I should be apt to imagine that the Letter was Dictated by the Vanity and Impertinence of Sir William Johnston's conceited Secretary, and I can't avoid saying that the Treatment of you Carries an Assuming Insolent air in it.

"As you must know what Real Effect this Embassy from the Five Nations to the Delawares and Shawonese has had, concerning which, Sir William Johnston assures me, that it had most Happily put an End to their Hostilities against the Inhabitants of your Province, I would beg the favour of you to inform me of it in a particular manner, that I may be Ascertained how far this Declaration of his is to be Depended upon, and How far it is only pretence and assuming a false merit to him self.

"It would have been a Great Pleasure to me to have seen you here, But I am satisfied it must have Interfered with his Majestie's Service in your own Government, and your Communication of your Sentiments to me in your Letter of the 25th of April, for which I am Obliged to you, and will in some measure Supply your Absence.

"I congratulate you upon the late Wonders you have wrought among the Quakers. In passing thro' Stainford, Mr. Lloyd, a very worthy man, presing me much to ask a favour of you, which I take the Liberty to do. The People of the Church of England in that Town, have with a Great Expence to themselves as they can bear, begun to build a Church, and can find no other Scheme of

Carrying it, than by a Lottery. Mr. Lloyd informs me that Lotteries are absolutely forbid in the Government of Connecticutt; but that one may be had in Pennsylvania, upon the Payment of a Fine, one Half of which Goes to the Governor. The Favour they would ask of your Honour is to be so far their Benefactor, as to Remit Your own Part of the Fine, towards Enabling them to finish the Church. Tho' I well know, my Dear Sir, that you don't much trouble Yourself about Church Building, yet I am persuaded your Natural Generosity of Temper and Good Disposition of Hart, towards helping any Sober Community in Effecting a Work which will make them Happy, and has a Tendency to promote Religion and Good Order, will strongly Prompt you to Give up your perquisite in the Case of their proposed Lottery, and I shall Esteem myself obliged to you for being so Good, and Letting me know it in a Line inclosed to Mr. Livingstone, and Directed to me at Albany, for which Place I shall Embark this afternoon.

"I am, with Great Truth, Dear Sir,
"Your affectionate & faithful Humble Serv't.
"WILLIAM SHIRLEY."

The Secretary further informs the Council, that Saturday's Post Brought a letter from Sir Charles Hardy, of the 29th April, with some Indian Minutes of what had passed on the 22nd of that Month, between Sir William Johnston & a Deputation of three Sachems & fifteen Warriors, what he had forwarded to the Governor at Harris' Ferry, having first Taken Coppies of them, with Intention to Lay them before the Council, & they were read in these Words:

A Letter from Governor Hardy to Governor Morris.

"FORT GEORGE, New York, April 29th, 1756.

"Sir:

"I have your favour by Mr. Claus, & am obliged to you for the Perusal of Yours to Sir William Johnston, which I have shut and shall return to Mr. Claus, who Leaves this City to Day, and the Indians with him.

"Last Night I received an Express from Sir William Johnston, Inclosing me the Report of the Dilagates from the Six Nations, which I here Inclose you a Copy of, for your Information.

"I think there is all the Reason to hope this Unhappy Breach may be finally accomodated at the intended Meeting at Onondago, and I most Heartily Congratulate you on this good Prospect. Whether his accomodation will Extend to the Delawares settled on the Ohio, or Confined to those on the Sasquehannah, may be a

Question. I had Some Conversation yesterday with the Half King on this Particular; he tells me he thinks the whole may be Brought about, Though he beleaves some Difficulty may attend this negotiation with the Ohio Delawares. I shall Write Sir William Johnston upon it, and press him to Urge a Confined Peace and a Renewed alliance with them, all at this Meeting.

"Sir William in his Letters to me Says, 'as the Delaware & Shawonese Indians have proposed this Meeting at Onondago, referr'd Ultimately to it, and Given me so pressing an invitation to meet them there, I am Inclined to beleave them Sincere in their Promise to Cease from further Hostilities, and Disposed to Renew & Strengthen their Alliance and Friendship with us; This I think at least to be the Case with the Majority of them. That the French have Debauched some of them totally from our Interest, and will Employ them in Harrassing our Frontiers, is Very Probable, and that some Attacks may be made upon the Frontiers since these Delagates were with them is not unlikely, as they had some Parties out who were ignorant of the Negociations which had Passed between their Chiefs & the Delagates of the Six Nations; But However, these will be informed of what is agreed on, and I hope will Act in Conformity.'

"Sir William Johnston tells me he is sorry you have Declared the Delawares Enemies, and thinks if a War is Prosecuted by your Government before the Effect of the Onondago Meeting is known, it may Defeat his Measures relative to those Indians at the Intended Meeting.

"I shall only beg leave to make this Observation, that as it is uncertain how far this accomodation may extend to the Indians Settled on the Ohio; The French have a Numbers and a mixture of Various Nations, who live about their forts near that River; these may Probably be looked Upon as Delawares and Shawonese, and no Doubt some of them are of those Nations, and Tho' we have Strong Reasons to think those our most Inveterate Enemies, and that they will most likely Continue so; Should the Six Nations look upon them in this Light or the Delawares and Shawonese urge to them this meeting, that wile this Negociation is on foot the English are Carrying on Warr against them, such a measure may not Embarrass Sir William and Lay him under Difficulties in Bringing this matter to such an Explanation as may clearly Enable us to Distinguish our Friends from our Enemies. Thus far, Sir, I have Given you my Thoughts on this Important Subject, which I freely referr to your Consideration, & shall to the Utmost of my Power Give Every Assistance to bring this Matter to a happy Issue; an Event that must from its Good Consequences restore Peace & Tranquillity to the Provinces, and more fully Enable them to Prosecute the just & Necessary Warr against the French.

"General Shirley arrived here last Night, and I believe will make but a short stay with us.

"I am, Sir, Your most Obedient & Humble Servant,

"CHAS. HARDY.

"P. S.—Four Mohawks has been down to invite our River Indians to Settle with them, & they have agreed to go up with their families the middle of this month."

The Report of the Delegates from the Six Nations, inclosed in the foregoing Letter, follows in These Wordes:

"A Deputation from the Onondagas of Two Sachems & fifteen Warriors.

"Peter Wraxall, Secr$^{y.}$

"Arent Stephens, Interp.

"Tiogwanta, Speaker.

"'Brother Warraghiyagey:

"'We are very sorry for your Loss at the Carrying Place, and as we doubt not you are oppressed with Grief on this Occasion, we do with this Belt of Wampum wipe away the Tears from your Eyes and Clear your Throat, that you may speak to us with Ease & freedom, and we Clean away the Blood that hath been Spilt, that we may Confer to Gether with our usual Confidence & Satisfaction.'

"Gave a large Belt of Black Wampum.

"'Brother:

"'At our Late publick meeting you put the five Nations in mind that the Delaware and Shawonese Indians were under their Government and Direction, and you Enjoined us to send to them to Express our Disapprobation and Resentment for the Bloody Hostilities which they had and were daily Committing against our Brethren the English in these Parts, and that we should order them to Ceace from those Violences, and live in that Friendship and Harmony with our Brethren the English as they were wont to Do, and they should turn the Edge of their Hatchets along with you and us against Our Common Enemies, the French and their Indians.

"'We have been to them and Delivered What You Gave us in Charge, and we have Succeeded by Convincing them that they have acted very foolishly and Unjustifiably, and they have Promised & agreed to join their Arms with us, in Conjunction with you, against our Common Enemies; but at the same time they Earnestly desire that they may see and Talk with you at Onondago, the Fire Place of the Five Nations, and that if you will meet them there, it will Convince them of your Good Desire to live with them in Harmony and Friendship, and that you intend to behave to them as Friends and Allies; and the Five Nations join with them in this request, as they Propose to have a Great meeting there; and as the Present Times are so Troublesome and the General Welfare so Precarious, we Desire you will fix upon as Early a day as possible to meet us at Onondago. As this meeting will be of so Great Importance to the common Cause, we must Press upon you to be Present at it, and that with as little delay as Possible, and that you will bring your Neighbours, the Mohawks of Both Castles, along with you, we would Willingly now take you by the Hand with us; but if this cannot be done, we must beg you will tell us what Day you will be at Onondago, that we may Summon the Six nations, the Delawares, and Shawonese, and our several Allies to come punctually at the Time you shall fix upon.'

"Delivered a Belt of Invitation.

"Sir William Johnston's Answer.

"'Brethren:

"'I am, very Glad to find that your Remonstrances to the Delawares and Shawonese Indians have had the desired Effects, and that they not only repent of their Cruel and unjust Behaviour towards their Brethren the English, but now perceive what is their true Interest and duty, and are disposed to join with you & us against the Common Enemy. Agreeable to their request and your urgent desire, I promise to come up to the Intended meeting at Onondago, and to be there in Twenty days from this Day. There are Several Reasons which Prevent my Going with you now or to attend Sooner, one of which is that I have been lately called three Times to the German Flatts at Oneida Carrying Place, by which means I have a great deal of Business upon my Hands which must be attended to before I can leave home again.

"'I shall Give Timely Notice to the Mohawks of Both Castles to be Ready to go when I call upon them.'

"A true Copy, examined by me.

"BENJAMIN BARONS."

A Letter from Sir William Johnston to General Shirley.

"FORT JOHNSTON, 24th April, 1756.

"Sir:

"My Letter of yesterday to your Excellency I Dispatched this Morning, but I forgot to mention one thing to you which is of Great Importance.

"Sir Charles Hardy Writes me that Governor Morris by the Publick Prints had Declared Warr against the Delawares & Shawonese Indians. I am Surprised that Mr. Morris, whose Province was so much Interested in the Result of the Six Nations Embassy to those Indians, who was a Principal in it, and to whom I sent a Copy of my late Proceedings, would not wait to hear the Effects of this Embassy before he entered into this Consequential Measure.

"What will the Delawares & Shawonese think of Such Opposition and Contradiction in our Conduct? How shall I behave at the Approaching Meeting at Onondago, not only to those Indians but to the Six Nations; these Hostile Measures which Mr. Morris has Entered into is Throwing all our Schemes into Confusion, and must Naturally Give the Six Nations such Impressions and the French such Advantages to Work on Against us that I tremble for the Consequence. I think without Consulting your Excellency, without the Concurrence of the Other Neighbouring Provinces, without my receiving Previous Notice of it, this is a very unadvised and unaccountable Proceeding of Governor Morris. I cannot but be of Oppinion, if terms of good accomodation can be Brought about, that in the present Critical Situation of Affairs it will be far more Eligible than to Enter into Hostilities against these Indians, Especially as a few days will Determine what Part we have to Chuse.

"I hope your Excellency will take this Interesting affair into your Consideration, and make use of such Interpositions as you shall judge Necessary thereupon.

"I am, Sir, Your Excellency's Most Obedient Humble Servant,

"W$^{M.}$ JOHNSTON."

On Reading the foregoing Letter of Sir William Johnston to General Shirley, wherein he Blames Governor Morris for Issuing his Declaration of Warr against the Delawares, and Desires the Interposition of Mr. Shirley; and Perusing the several Transactions between the Indians' Deputies and Sir William Johnston, as set forth in Sir Charles Hardy's Letter to Governor Morris, together with what General Shirley has been Pleased to say in his Letter on this Subject, the Council were of Opinion that they should advise the Governor to Publish a cessation of Hostilities against the Delawares until the Result of the Meeting of the Indians at Onondago should be known, but before this be done it might be of Service and tend to Quiet the minds of the Back inhabitants if the Governor would be pleased to call some of the most Principal and most Discreet of those Inhabitants together & communicate to them the Several Transactions that had Passed between the Indians and Sir William Johnston, and Satisfy them of Expediency of this Measure in Regard to the Six Nations, who might turn against us if we slighted a Matter brought by them to Such a Ripeness, and Likewise that he would be Pleased to give it in particular Charge to Colonel Clapham to see that the Forces under his Command should conform to the Suspension of Arms both in their March and Whilst at Shamokin.

It was then Considered, as the Delawares on the Ohio were still in open Warr, and a Grand attack might be expected to be made this Month from that Quarter on the Frontier Inhabitants, whether the Cessation should Extend to them; and it was after Long consultation agreed it should, but an Account coming from the Post Master of Annapolis that these Indians had Penetrated and Were Destroying the Inhabitants of Virginia twelve miles Within Winchester, & it being known from former accounts that they had Laid Waste the Conolloways and a Great part of Conegocheague, and had very lately Defeated forty Regular Forces of Fort Cumberland, and were Determined to attack that fort, the Matter was reconsidered, and Agreed to advise the Governor to Confine the Cessation of arms to the Sasquehannah Indians.

It was likewise Thought Propper to write a Letter to General Shirley, and Instructions were Given to the Secretary for that Purpose, and he was desired to Prepare a Letter against To-morrow morning nine o'clock. The Letters & Papers respecting the Supply of Arms were then Considered, and Mr. Hamilton with Mr. Mifflin were desired, on the Part of this Government, to execute an Indented Bond, agreeable to the form Sent, which was done in the Presence of Mr. Turner and Mr. Peters, who attested the Execution thereof, Mr. Chew, the Recorder of the City, and he Ceretified it; Accordingly Mr. Mifflin was requested to Write the Necessary Letters to his Correspondents at Boston, and Give the Proper Credit for the Shipping of them, and to Press Dispatch, as the Arms, &c., were so much Wanted here.

The Persons which Conducted Newcastle, Jagrea, William Laquis, returned yesterday and Delivered to the Secretary a Letter from Mr. Spangenberg, Directed to the Governor, which was opened & Read in the following Words:

"Bethel, May 2d, 1756.

"May it please your Honour:

"I arrived at Bethelham the 28th, 1st Month, and Communicated with our Indians your Honour's Desire that one or another of them might go with the Messengers who were sent by your Honour's Orders to the Indians at the Sasquehannah, and would soon be with us at Bethleham, on their way thither. Augustus, a Delaware, al^s George, upon serious Consideration upon Going, and not being Ignorant of Many Dangers he might Happen to meet with, he called his Wife, Mother-in-Law, and two Sons together, and Declared to them his Last Will, in Case he should be either Killed or Hindered some how from Coming Back again, viz.: that they should continue with our Saviour, With whom he was Determined to abide as long as he had Flesh & Skin upon his Back, and that they should not Leave the Brethren.

"Jagrea had Company came to Bethleham the Same Day, and when I presented to them the said Augustus, they were very Much Pleased with him; He being a Man of Good Judgment, of an honest Countenance, and well acquainted with the Woods up that way to Wiomink, and so they are gone to gether Yesterday to Fort Allen, and To-morrow they will Proceed from thence in their Journey to the Sasquehannah. I thought them all in greater Dangers of being Hurt in the Irish Settlement than any where Else in all the Province, and, therefore, I did desire James Ennis and Thomas Apty not to leave them till they were at Fort Allen, and so they went along. Mr. Edmunds, David Zeisberger, George Klein, and Stephen Blum, all of Bethleham, went allso with them to Fort Allen, the Sheriff of this County not being at Home at the Time of setting off.

"We have used them well at Bethleham, and have Shewed them so much Kindness as they were able to accept of, and I think they went away very well pleased. Their Last Declaration, as well at Bethelham as at Fort Allen, which he also wanted me to write to your Honour, was as follows, viz.:

"'We do Remember very well the words the Governor hath put in our mouths, and will deliver them faithfully; may be this affair will take up some time, twenty if not thirty or thirty-five Days; if we do not return in that time be sure that we are Either Killed or that the Danger is such that we cannot get thro'. But if we can we will go directly to Thomas Magee's, and so on to the Governor, for so he hath Ordered us to do; and so we will do if we can, but if either the white People or the Bad Indians are in the Way that we can't go down the Sasquehannah by Water, then we will come by Fort Allen and Bethleham back again.

"'If we should happen to loose our Flag and Passport [for the man that carries it may be shott, and the others may be forced to fly for their Lives], then we will come to the Forts or any of them, and our Token shall be a Club'd musket and Green Boughs in our Hats.

"'If we meet with bad Indians in the Woods, and some of us be killed, you may expect any one that Escapes in Ten days, if we do not Return in such a Time that you may think that we are Luckely Arrived.

"'If we don't come in Twenty days then let the Captains of Each Fort look out for us Fifteen days, which in all makes thirty-five days, and we will not come in the night to any of the Forts.'

"Now, this is humbly to Request your Honour that if they come down to Harris' Ferry to meet your Honour there, Augustus may have your Honour's Passports, and be Safely Conducted by Proper and Careful Officers to Bethleham again, for so much I have Promised him, and he Expects it from your Honour.

"I am, Your Honour's Humble Servant,

"SPANGENBERG."

Philadelphia May the 6
1756

Dear Sir

Here inclosed I send you a Copy of the Speeches passed at Tiaogon or Cayinker Branch* of Susquehanna I need say nothing about them you will see your self. The Indians to wit new Castel & Zigerea will be send again as soon as the Govr return from new Castel which will be to day or to morrow I hope. I Cant go out of town before his return. Mr. Thomas pawnel is appointed Governor for this province I know nothing as yet of our Salary the Comissioners sat but none since my being here to what I know, no news of any Consequens is stirring but what is in the news paper the Femous preacher Mr foddergill took his leave from this town last friday going to England. I am

Dear Sir
your old friend and humble
Servant
Conrad Weiser

I had not time to Examin the Copy

I received a letter of Capt. Insle but as you are now upon the spot it must be left to you untill I hear from the Governor or Comissioner.

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* Cayuga branch – viz the N. East branch of Susquehanna or the right hand branch when in going up & at Tioga.

J.H.

To Willm. parsons Esquire
Major of the pensilvania regement
at Eston
per favour of Mr. Inslee

May 6. 175
Conrad Weiser
Colln. Weiser with the India
Treaty inclosed.

George R

Instructions for Our Right Trusty & Right Webeloved Cousin John Earl of Loudoun, Major General of Our Forces, whom We have appointed General & Commander in Chief of all and singular our Forces, that are now in North America, and that shall be sent, or raised there. Given at Our Court at Kensington the Seventh Day of May 1756. in the Twenty Ninth Year of Our Reign.

Whereas We have by Our Commissions, bearing date the 17th Day of March, & the 15th Day of

April last past, appointed You to be General & Commander in Chief of all & singular Our Forces, that are, or shall be, in North America; For your better Direction, and Discharge of the Trust, thereby reposed in You, We have judged it proper to give You the following Instructions.

1st. . . You shall, immediately upon the Receipt of these Our Instructions, embark on Board One of Our Ships of War, and You shall proceed to North America, where You will take Our said Forces under your Command: And We do hereby require & enjoin You to cultivate a good Understanding and Correspondence with the Commander of the Squadron of Our Ships of War, on the American Station, during your continuance upon the Service, with which You are now entrusted: We having given Directions, of a like Nature, to the Commander of Our said Squadron, with regard to his Conduct and Correspondence with You.

2d. . . . Whereas We have thought proper, agreable to the inclosed Act of Parliament to give Directions for raising a Regiment to be called by the Name of Our Royal American Regiment, & to consist of Four Battalions of 1000 Men each, under the Command of British & Foreign Officers, being Protestants; You will receive herewith Copies of the Circular Orders to Our Governors, to be aiding & assisting to You, in the compleating the same, and in Enlisting Men for Recruiting Our other Troops in America; for the better performance of which

Service, the inclosed Act of Parliament has been paſsed, for the Enlisting Indented Servants; and You will inform yourself of such of Our Governors, as You can most conveniently, upon your Arrival, & of all of them, in due time, concerning the Progreſs they shall respectively have made in the Execution of Our Commands abovementioned, in Order that You may be enabled, without Delay, to act accordingly.

3d. . . . . And Whereas We have further directed Our said Governors to endeavour to prevail upon the Aſsemblies of their respective Provinces, to raise, forthwith, as large a Sum, as can be afforded, as their Contribution to a Common Fund to be employed, provisionally, for the general Service in North

America, particularly for paying the Charge of levying the Troops, for Recruiting & Compleating Our Forces in North America; It is Our Will & Pleasure, that You should give them all the Advice & Assistance You can, towards effectuating these good Purposes, by establishing such a Common Fund, as may fully supply the intended Service; But You will take particular Care to prevent the Payment of any Money whatever to the Troops under your Command, except such as shall be pursuant to the Returns made to You of Effective Men.

4th. .... We having likewise directed Our said Governors to correspond, advise, and confer with You, about all such Matters as may tend to the promoting the said

Levies, in their respective Provinces; and We having also ordered them to observe & obey all such Directions as shall be given by Our Commander in Chief, from time to time, for Quartering the Troops, impreſsing Carriages, & providing all Neceſsaries; You are hereby required to be aiding & aſsisting to them in the Execution of Our said Instructions, for which Purpose, You will not only keep a constant & frequent Correspondence in Writing with them, but will likewise visit the said Provinces or any One of them, if You shall think it neceſsary for Our Service so to do; And You will remind Our said Governors, to use all poſsible Dispatch, that the Execution of Our Design may not be retarded by the Slowneſs of

Levies to be made in their respective Provinces, or for the want of Transports, Victuals, or any other Necessaries, at such Times & Places, as You shall think fit to appoint for their general Rendez vous, And We do hereby authorize & empower You to contract for such a Number of Carriages as shall be necessary for the Use of Our Forces in North America; And if any Preparations should be necessary for the carrying on Our Service, which is not contain in these Our Instructions, You shall, with the Concurrence of the Governors, who are to assist in any such Service, make any such Preparations as You shall judge proper. And You will, in all such Emergencies, and Occurrences, that may happen, whether herein mentioned, or not, not only use your best Circumspection, but shall likewise call to your Assistance a Council of War, when necessary, which We have thought fit to appoint upon this Occasion, consisting of yourself, the Commander in Chief of Our Ships in those Parts, such Governors of Our Colonies, or Provinces, and such Colonels, and other of Our Field Officers, as shall happen to be at a convenient Distance; And you shall, with the Advice of them, or the Majority of them, determine all Operations to be performed by Our said Forces under your Command, and all other important Points relating thereto, in a Manner that shall be most conducive to the Ends for which the said Forces are intended,

&

& for the faithfull Discharge of the great Trust hereby committed to You.

5th. ... You will not only cultivate the best Harmony & Friendship possible with the several Governors of Our Colonies & Provinces, but likewise with the Chiefs of the Indian Tribes; and for the better Improvement of Our good Correspondence with the said Indian Tribes, We have ordered Sir William Johnson to repair to the Northern, & — Atkin, to the Southern Indians, as Persons thought to be most acceptable to them, to endeavour to engage them to take Part, & act with Our Forces, in such Operations, as You shall think most expedient.

6th. ... You will inform yourself, from time to time, of the Nature

&

& Value of the Presents, that shall be voted, or ordered by the Aſsemblies of Our different Colonies & Provinces, in the accustomed Manner, for the inviting & engaging the Indian Tribes to Our Alliance & Interest; And You will be very watchfull, that a just & faithfull Distribution be made of the same, by all such Persons who shall be entrusted therewith; and You shall aſsist the said Persons with your best Advice in the said Distribution.

7th. . . . Whereas it has been represented to Us, that an illegal Correspondence and Trade is frequently carried on between the French and Our Subjects in the several Colonies; You will diligently take all poſsible Measures, to prevent the Continuance of all such dangerous Practices, particularly that the French should not, upon any Account whatever, be supplied with Provisions; for which Purpose We have directed Our several Governors to recommend, in the strongest manner, to their respective Councils and Assemblies, to paſs effectual Laws for prohibiting all Trade and Commerce with the French, and for preventing the Exportation of Provisions, of all kinds, to any of their Islands or Colonies; to the preventing of which illegal and pernicious Practices, You will pay the utmost Attention.

8th. . . . Whereas We have thought it neceſsary, upon this Occasion, to establish certain Rules, which You will receive herewith, for the Rank, & Precedence, to be observ'd between the Commander in Chief, Generals, & other Officers of Our Forces in America, & the Governors, Lieutenant Governors, and Presidents of the Council of Our several Provinces & Colonies; It is Our Will & Pleasure, that You do cause the said Rank & Precedence to be observed upon all Occasions, and that you do publish, affix, and disperse the same, as You shall judge proper, in America.

9th . . . We have ordered Copies of all Papers to be delivered to You, that are now in the hands of General Shirley, relative to Our Service in North America, which You will consider as Informations, & where necessary as Instructions to yourself.

10th . . . In order that Our Forces in North America may not be unsupplied with Officers to command them, whilst they are in the said Service; We do hereby give You full Power & Authority, in Case of Death, Removal by Sentence of Court Martial, or the Quitting of any of Our Officers in the said Service, to supply such Vacancies, by granting Commissions to such Persons, as You shall make Choice of for that purpose, who are to be acknowledged, & to command in their respective Stations, as if they had received Commissions from Us; But if any Commission, appointing to the Command of any Regiment, or Battalion, or giving the Rank of Colonel in Our Army, shall become vacant, then, Our Will & Pleasure is, that It shall remain vacant, till Our Pleasure shall be known thereupon; And You shall give immediate Notice of all Vacancies, to One of Our Principal Secretaries of State, & to Our Secretary at War, for the time being.

14
11. . . . You will not fail to send Us, by the First, & every Occasion, that may offer, a full & clear Account of your Proceedings, & of all material Points, relating to Our Service, by Letter to One of Our Principal Secretaries of State, from whom You shall receive, from Time to Time, such further Orders, as may be necessary for your Guidance & Direction.

GR

Fort Johnson 21st April 1756. A.M.

A Deputation from the Onondagaes of
Two Sachems and 15 Warriours.

Peter Wraxall Secy
Arent Stevens Interpr

Tisquanta Speaker

Brother Warraghiyagey

We are very sorry for your late loss at the carrying Place, and as we doubt not your are oppressed with grief on this occasion we do with this Belt of Wampum wipe away the Tears from your Eyes, and clear your Throat that you may speak to us with ease and Freedom, and we clean away the Blood which hath been spilt, that we may confer together with our usual confidence and Satisfaction.

Gave a large Belt of Black
Wampum

Brother

At our late publick Meeting you put the five Nations in mind that the Delawares, and Shawanese Indians were under their Government and direction, and you enjoined us to send to them to express our Disapprobation and Resentment for the Bloody Hostilities which they had, and were dayly Committing against our Bretheren the English in these parts, and that we should bid them to cease from these Violences and live in that Friendship and Harmony with our Bretheren the English as they were wont to do, and that they should turn the Edge of their Hatchets along with you and us against our common Enemies the French and their Indians.

We have been to them, and delivered what you gave us in Charge, and we have succeeded by convincing them that they had Acted very foolishly and unjustifiably, and they have promised and agreed to join their Arms with us in Conjunction with you against our common Enemys, but at the same time they earnestly desire that they may see and talk with you at Onondaga the Fire place of the five Nations and that if you will meet them there it will convince them of your desire to live with them in Harmony and Friendship, and that you intend to behave to them as Friends and Allies, and the five Nations join with them in this Request as they propose to have a very great Meeting there and as the present times are so troublesome and the general Welfare so precarious, we desire you will fix upon as early a Day as possible to meet us at Onondaga. As this Meeting will be of great Importance to the common cause we press upon you to be present at it, and that with as little delay as possible, and that you will bring your Neighbours the Mohawks of both Castles along with you.

We would willingly now take you by the hand with us, but if this cannot be done we must beg you will tell us what Day you will be at Onondaga, that we may summons the Six Nations, the Delawares and Shawanese and our several Allies to come punctually at the time you shall fix upon

(delivered a Belt of Invitation)

Brother With half of this Belt (holding one up) we put.

put you in mind that as you have often told us, that we are as one People and one Family, we must now inform you, that as this Meeting at Onondaga will be a very considerable one, and at which will be present a great number of Indians of several Nations, we are by reason of the present Situation of Affairs (which requires our Young Men to be constantly in Arms attending the Operations of our Brethren the English) very Short of Provisions, and by no means able to provide for such numbers as will come to this Meeting, We therefore hope you will bring along with you some Provisions to assist us to support the many Indians who will Assemble at Onondaga on this Occasion.

Brother.

With the other half of this Belt we acquaint you that as you desired the Six Nations in general and we Onondagas in particular would have our Eyes constantly fixt upon Oswego our Trading Place, and keep out Scouts in order to discover and make known the Motions and Designs of the Enemy — This we have constantly done, and no sooner one Scouting Party comes in but we send out another and upon gaining any Intelligence immediately communicate it to the Commanding Officer at Oswego; and this we shall continue to do with our utmost Zeal and Abilities, for Brother we are determined to live and die with our Brethren the English. Now Brother you know that Arms and Ammunition are not only the means of our livelyhood and that by constant use they must be wearing out and expended, but

more especially so at this time when they are con=
=stantly in our hands, not only for our own Main=
=tenance but to assist our Bretheren the English, We
must therefore desire Brother that you will bring
along with you to this Meeting at Onondaga a goo
Supply of Arms, Powder and Ball, as things Absolut
=ly needfull at this Conjuncture dont think Brother
we are so earnest upon this point with a view of
private Advantage for we propose to use our Arms
and Ammunition in conjunction with our Brethe
=ren the English against their and our Enemies.

(Then gave the whole Belt)

21st April 1756

Sir William Johnson's Answer to the
foregoing Speech   Peter Wraxall Secry
Arent Stevens Interpt

Bretheren of Onondaga

The Condolance of your Nation on our
late Misfortune at the Carrying Place is friendly
and Acceptable These things are the natural
Consequences of War and I hope they will animat
both you and us with a laudable Spirit of
Resentment.

Brethren

I am very glad to find that your remonstrances to the Delawares and Shawanese Indians have had the desired Effects, and that they not only repent of their cruel and unjust Behaviour towards their Brethren the English, but now perceive what is their true Interest and Duty, and are disposed to join with you and us against the common Enemy. agreeable to their request and your urgent desire I propose to come up to the intended Meeting at Onondaga and to be there in Twenty days from this day. There are several reasons which prevent my being able to go with you now, or to attend sooner, one of which is that I have been lately called three times to the German Flatts and Oneida Carrying Place, by which means I have a great deal of Business upon my hands which must be attended to before I can leave home again.

I shall give timely notice to the Mohawks of both Castles to be ready to go when I call upon them.

Brethren

I am sensible that at this time more especially You will not be able to find Provisions for such a Number of Indians as will probably be at this Meeting, and I shall therefore agreeable to your request take care to assist with a supply of Provisions.

Brethren.

It gives me great Pleasure to hear that you Manifest that attention to your true Interest and my Exhortations, as to be duly watchfull over the safety of your Trading place at Oswego, by keeping out constant Scouting Parties round it, I hope you will, in this and by every other method continue to let your, and our Enemys the French and their Indians, see that you look upon the preservation of Oswego not only as a Security to your own Castles, but as a Place which your Honour and your Interest calls on you to protect from their Incroaching Attempts and that you will to the utmost of your power keep the Road to it free and Open.

Brethren I well know how necessary Arms and Ammunition are to you at all times, and more particularly so at this, and I shall do every thing in my power to obtain and bring with me as much and as good of the kind as I possibly can, but as several Armaments are now making throughout this Continent these Important Articles are thereby rendered Scarce, and difficult to be Obtained, and that I may have time to get the best and as large a Quantity as I can purchase is another reason why I cannot sooner meet you at Onondaga.

Gave a Belt.

To this the Speaker reply'd.

Brother Warraghiyagey.

You have given us a very Satisfactory Answer to the several particulars we had in Charge from our Castles We are extreamly Obliged to You for it and we shall punctually make our report on our return. The Friendship between our Brethren the English and us, hath been of an Antient date, and a long continuance and we cannot more Effectually distress our Enemies than by stedfastly Uniting ourselves together against them.

Sir William then told them that as he had promised their Nation at the late Meeting that when the Weather would permit he would send People up to build them a Fort, this he now intended speedily to do, and desired their People would agree upon a proper place to Build it and hoped when the Workmen came up they would use them well and avoid any Quarrells or Disagreements and that he would give a Charge to the Workmen to behave well on their Side.

Then the Conference broke up.

A True Copy from the Original Minutes
Examined by me.

Peter Wraxall Sec.ry for Ind. Affairs.

A true Copy Examined by
Benj.a Barons
Secretary.

New York 6

Copy of the Report
made to Sr. Wm Johnson
by the Deputation from
the Onandagues to the
Delaware Indians.

April 21. 1756

Recd with Sr. C. Hardy's
Lre of May 10. 1756.

Ll. 35.

Recd June 7 } 1756.
Read — 8 }

Fort Johnson 22. April 1756. P. M.

The Mohawk Delagates who were sent down to the River Indians, waited upon Sir William Johnson and gave him the following Account of their Negotiation.

Brother Warraghiyagey.

Our Delagates are return'd from our Nephews the River Indians, and we are come to this our fire place with them to give you a Relation of their Proceedings.

Brother

Our Nephews were extreamly glad to see us and expressed their Gratitude for our Invitation to them which they readily accepted of, and promised as soon as they could gather their People together, which they believ'd would be next Month, they would remove hither and accept our Offers. They said they had look'd upon themselves as a People abandoned and were extreamly rejoiced to find their Uncle's the Mohawks had not wholly forgott them but had taken Measures for their Welfare and Establishm.t, and that previous to their Removal they would dispatch some of their young Men forwards to give us Notice of their coming.

Hereupon Sir William answered

Bretheren of the lower Mohawk Castle

I thank you for the account you have given me of your Proceedings with your Nephews the River Indians. I approve thereof and am glad to find they have so readily and gratefully embraced your kind and prudent Invitations. When they come and are incorporated with you I shall consider and treat them as Bretheren

And assist them accordingly and I hope they will be an addition to your Strength and Welfare.

a true Copy

Peter Wraxall
Secry for I. affs.

A true Copy Examined by
Benja. Parsons
Secretary.

Copy of the Report
made to Sr Wm Johnson
by the Mohawk Delegates
who were sent to the
River Indians — Fort
Johnson Apl 22. 1756

Ll. 36.

Recd with Sr Charles
Hardy's Letr of 10 May
1756.

Recd June 7 } 1756
Read — 8

[illegible] me when [illegible] distance [illegible] able
[illegible] of great [illegible]

Brethren [illegible] your worthy friend [illegible] parts
[illegible] Philadelphia [illegible] great
[illegible] duly con
[illegible] the [illegible]
[illegible] agreeable [illegible]
gave [illegible] String of Wamp.

[illegible] the [illegible] of the approach
of a large [illegible] Indians to the [illegible]
[illegible] immediately [illegible]
the [illegible] in order to meet them
and [illegible] their [illegible] design the Militia of
the [illegible] marched [illegible] will be [illegible]
this night, those [illegible] at Schenectady [illegible]
[illegible] when I [illegible] off for that place
with them, I have [illegible] acquainted with [illegible]
[illegible] with [illegible] and my design of [illegible]
[illegible] without [illegible] of time to meet the Enemy [illegible]
[illegible] take it into consideration
[illegible] your resolutions

gave a String of Wamp.

They returned their thanks for the [illegible]
[illegible] promised to join [illegible]
[illegible] with [illegible] Indians.

Fort Johnson 1st May 1756.

At a Meeting of four Chiefs of the Onieda & Seneca
Nations, to wit, Scarooyady or the Half King an Oniedy
Schwaghsaniant [illegible] & two other
[illegible] of the Seneca Nation also two Seneca Women
[illegible]

Mr. Montour }
Jacobus Clement } Interprs.

Scarooyady

Scarouady Speaker

(Brother Warraghiyagey)

When I was here last Winter you advised me to remove from the place where I have been for some years past & I did as you thought I [illegible] to [illegible] who [illegible] of the English [illegible] and [illegible] to [illegible] my Countrymen, [illegible] Brother to [illegible] you now [illegible] Women have [illegible] young Warriors, I [illegible] that the [illegible] present in particular may be made [illegible] any Affairs [illegible] public Affairs relating to the 6 Nations [illegible]

[illegible] a String [illegible] Wampum

Brother

[illegible] to [illegible] Nation [illegible] to call those of their Nation who lived with us near the Ohio to return to their Natural Castles as you have done this we are very much obliged to you

A String.

(Sir William's Answer)

Brethren

I am very glad that you have consulted your own Security & the good of the common Cause in quitting your late habitation & coming hither with your Families. I am heartily glad to see you & shall contribute all

in

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in my power to make his excuse immediately [illegible]
[illegible] we make
[illegible] invitation [illegible]
[illegible] always [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] (Sir W. Johnson)

Fort Johnson 18 Sept 1756

[illegible] Chief [illegible]
[illegible]
Canajoharie [illegible]
[illegible] manner [illegible]
[illegible] that he expected
them [illegible] of the
Mohawk Castle [illegible] in agitation &
their arrival that they had [illegible] to day of
Wiondomanee [illegible] they were
[illegible] at the Meeting. In the mean time, as they
were [illegible] with Tawitha
he had received some [illegible] they
[illegible] themselves

[illegible] the Chief Sachem
answered Brother Warraghiyagey!

You should have been here yesterday according
to your appointment, but hearing of French
men and Indians [illegible] when you were up
[illegible] some tracks of
the enemy, which detained us from setting out
as we intended.

We are now come ready to see you
and when our Brethren of the Mohawk Castle
are present we shall be ready to proceed upon
Business. They then returned the String of Wampum
[illegible] Indians [illegible]

[illegible] 1756

[illegible] of Damage [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] of the [illegible]
[illegible] in agitation [illegible]
[illegible] that they had [illegible] to day of
[illegible] their spirit and as they could.
[illegible] at the [illegible] the [illegible]
[illegible] with [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible]
answered by [illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] you [illegible]
[illegible] some [illegible] of
the enemy [illegible]
[illegible]

We [illegible] to see you
and other our Brethren of the Mohawk Castle
[illegible] to [illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible] themselves [illegible]
" [illegible]
" [illegible] and English [illegible]
" [illegible] however [illegible] to drop
" [illegible] intimacy with the In-
" [illegible]
" [illegible]
" [illegible]
" [illegible] providing that their [illegible]
[illegible] be [illegible] by
" should [illegible] them of [illegible]
" [illegible] with us the English
" who [illegible] in great measure
" to [illegible] that for the future
" they should [illegible] be [illegible]
" [illegible] that they [illegible]
" [illegible] the English. [illegible]
" [illegible] that [illegible] one [illegible]
" [illegible]
[illegible] against the Englishmen [illegible] to go
to [illegible]. They concluded with desiring of this
[illegible] not to [illegible] to [illegible]
they might be fully informed & [illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible] 11th May [illegible] —

Speech of the Indians the lower Mohawks [illegible]
[illegible]

We are come here to our usual place
of consultation not only to lay our private
[illegible] before you but likewise
to

to consult about public Affairs which in these troubles sometimes require Secrecy without him and

Brother

As we are very desirous to be called in Council to give you whatever you desire us, we must therefore propose to you that as now the Warlike are [illegible] whenever our Lives are [illegible] the [illegible] that you would be pleased to be our guard and secure. We should be glad that you would appoint some Body that understand our Language to take an account [illegible] never plain grounds. We propose to [illegible] Indian Traders [illegible] that [illegible] again [illegible] [illegible] days [illegible] we think [illegible] [illegible] for that purpose. If true we [illegible] [illegible] where they don't understand us, we would be willing to [illegible] in ~~[illegible]~~ the presence of [illegible] we stand in need of. We therefore leave these Matters to your Consideration and [illegible] [illegible] Intelligence.

a Belt

[illegible] then [illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] their answer [illegible].

2 May P. M.

At a Meeting of the several Chiefs, Sachems & Warriors of the Two Mohawk Castles, & sundry Indians belonging to the Schohary castle, & the Seneca, Cayuga, Oneida & Tuscarora Nations, (amongst whom were Scarouady or the half King & Cawaghsa=
=nicut [illegible]

to consult about publick Affairs [illegible] in the [illegible]
some times [illegible] [illegible] what [illegible]

Brother

[illegible] we are very glad to be called
in peace to give you whatever you desire we
we must therefore [illegible] to you that are now
the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] that
you would [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] We would [illegible] that you would ap-
point some [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
to take [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
ground. We [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] that [illegible] upon [illegible] of [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] we think to take
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] for that [illegible]
[illegible] we [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] would be wanting to
[illegible] in ~~their~~ the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] in need of
We therefore leave these Matters to your
[illegible] and [illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible]

Sir William [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
them in answer [illegible]

12 May P. M

At a Meeting of the several Chiefs [illegible] Warriors
of the two Mohawk Castles, [illegible] Indians
belonging to the Schohary Castle, & the Seneca,
Cayouga, Oneida & Tuscarora Nations, (amongst whom
were Scharouyady or the half King & Tanaghrisa-
-nineh [illegible]

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[illegible] of Wanyuni a great Seneca Sachem to Sr William [illegible] & his answer addressed him by the [illegible] in the following Manner.

Mr Montour }
Mr [illegible] } Interp.rs
Jacob Clement }

Brother Warraghiyagey.

Yesterday you [illegible] called at y.r Castle [illegible] to the [illegible] you expressed in a warm manner your disappro-bation [illegible] of my design of attending the proposed Meeting at Onondaga & said that you had several reasons against my going thither at this juncture [illegible] of the Lower Mohawk Castle also expressed themselves in the like manner, and I have received a Message from [illegible] desiring me not to go to the said Meeting.

Brethren of the Lower Castle, in answer to you [illegible] to my re-quest [illegible] to know that this Meet-ing at Onondaga, was appointed at the desire of the Delaware & Susquehanna Indians in con-junction with our Brethren at Onondaga, & that in compliance with the earnest request of those Indians, I promised to be present at it by the 10 day of this Month, I have however upon account of the late [illegible] & in consequence of your application to me delayed my journey.

I must therefore desire you will now with the Openness of Heart becoming Brethren give me your Reasons against my attending at this Meeting, for without some Satisfactory Arguments, I shall be very unwilling to break my Promise given to our Brethren at Onondaga, for in all matters either of more or less importance I am desirous of strictly observing my Engagements. You will therefore Brethren take the matter into your serious Consideration & give me your Thoughts free with Candour & under —

A Belt —

Fort Johnson 13 May 1756. P.M.

The Conference with the Indians continued as mentioned yesterday.

Present as yesterday —

Abraham the chief Sachem of the upper Mohawk Castle spoke as follows.

In the Name of the 3 Nations now present

You have referred it to our Nations to deliver the general Sentiments of all here present on what our Brother Warraghiyagey said to us last night, and I am now going to do so.

Brother Warraghiyagey

We were called here to give our Opinion in relation to the intended Meeting at Onondaga. We have all taken that Affair into our serious Consideration, the result whereof we will proceed to lay before you.

Brother

When you were at Lake George we

At a Council held at Philadelphia, Thursday the 20th May, 1756.

PRESENT:

Robert Streetle,
Joseph Turner,
John Mifflin,
Richard Peters, } Esquires.

The post Brought a letter from General Shirley to the Governor of the 12 Instant, inclosing one from Sir William Johnston of the 10th, which were read & the Original sent to the Governor. A Letter from Captain Spry, dated at Halifax 24th April last, was read & the Original sent to the Governor.

A Letter from Genl. Shirley to Governor Morris.

"ALBANY, May 12th, 1756.

"Sir:

"I was favoured yesterday with Mr. Peters' Letter, wrote by order of your Council in answer to Mine, inclosing you the Copy of Sir William Johnston's Letter to me upon the Subject of your Declaring War against the Shawonese & Delaware Indians, &c., & have as they desired transmitted Sir William Johnston a Copy of it & of the Declaration of Warr, &c., as I have also Sir Charles Hardy.

"For your better Information of the Situation of the Indian Affairs in this Country of the Six Nations, & the Sudden change of the scene there with regard to Sir William Johnston's Meeting of the Council to be held at Onondago, as also of the Inefficacy of the Measures lately taken by him for putting an End to the Depredations & Murders committed by the Shawonese within your Borders, I send you Inclosed a Copy of his Letter to me dated the 10th Instant.

"I leave you to your own Reflection upon the Contents, having only time to subscribe myself, with Great Truth and Esteem,

"Dear Sir, Your Honour's most faithfull Humble Servant,

"WILLIAM SHIRLEY."

A Letter from Sir William Johnston to General Shirley.

"FORT JOHNSTON, 10th May, 1756.

"Sir:

"I met the Express between Albany & Schenedady with Captain Falkner's Letter, advising that a Large Body of French & Indians were Marching to cut off the German Flatts. I sent the Express forward to Colonel Burton, who I doubt not Communicated the Intelligence to your Excellency without loss of time; at Schenedady I dispatched Orders to the Militia to join me the Hither End of the German Flats, for which place I set Out with all possible Dispatch, and as I thought no time ought to be lost I was too much to write to your Excellency at that juncture; upon a Muster at the Flatts I found I had with me above 1,400 Militia & Indians; the Albany Detachment did not Come Up. I dispatched Scouting parties all round the German Flatts for several Miles, but made no Discovery of any Enemy; I have some Scouts still out whom I desired to take a larger Circuit, & I sent some Indians to reconitre the Enemy, who are to Go as far as Onegochi if they can do it Safely.

"I find the Indians, the Onondagas Expected, are very warmly against my Going to the Meeting at Onondaga. Deputies from the two Mohawk Castles are to meet me here to-morrow, also the Half King & Several Seneca Chiefs, who are here with him now, when they say they will Give me their Reasons; besides I am informed the Southern Indians who proposed this Meeting have Changed their pacific Measures & are gone over to the French on the Ohio, but as I expect to-morrow's Meeting will throw some new lights upon this Affair I will defer saying any thing more upon it till that is Over, when I shall transmit your Excellency what passes, & at the same time Answer your Favour of the Twenty-ninth Ult^o from New York.

"Our Militia here are Quite wore out with the Repeated Fatigues they have lately suffered.

"I wish the Companies of Rangers your Excellency mentions were ready to go upon duty, when I would hope to be able to join Indians with them, & unless this method takes place I despair of the Communication to Oswego being secured.

"Captain Butler writes me that Colonel Bradstreet says he has as many Indians with him as he Wants; he might have more if he thought them Necessary.

"I am your Excellency's most Obedient Humble Servant,

"WILLIAM JOHNSTON."

A Letter from Captain Spry to Governor Morris.

"FOUGUEUX, Halifax Harbour, 24 April, 1756.

"Sir:

"I take leave to Inclose to You Orders for the Captains of his Majesty's Vessels on the Lake Ontario, which I must beg your care of, and that you will Please to send them thither by the first Convenient Opportunity. I have long wished to hear from you, and Indeed have expected it with some Reason, as I think my good Friend you are already indebtted to me three Letters, which I don't take very kind from one whom I have formerly taken to so much Pleasure in Corresponding with. We have no news in this Corner of the World worth Communicating. I have received no Letters from England since the 5 Decem., so that we are totally Ignorant what they are about. I am getting my little weak Squadron ready for Sea with all possible dispatch, and hope, notwithstanding the Situation we are in for want of Men, to pay your Neighbours at Louisburg a visit by the third or fourth of May; but if we meet with a French Squadron we shall certainly be well drubb'd.

"I have Buryed since I came into America upwards of one Hundred and Seventy seamen from my own Ship with out being able to procure a man in their Rooms. Guess then, Sir, how Distressed must be my Circumstances. I have earnestly intreated General Shirley to send me a Speedy Reinforcement, & he has Promised me all the assistance in his Power, and to recommend to the rest of the Colonies to do the like; Forty or Fifty from Each Colony would man us Compleatly, and Enable us to do our Duty like Englishmen.

"I flatter my Self, Sir, should such a Proposal be made, you would think it an Equitable and as Reasonable one, and Give me all the Assistance in your Power, as 'twill be impossible for me to procure a sufficient number of men in America by any other Method.

"I hope you have Enjoyed your Health since I had the Pleasure of hearing from you last, and let me intreat you to beleave me,

"Dear Sir, your most faithfull & Obedient Servant,

"R. SPRY."

The Governor on the Eighteenth Instant having passed the Act for the more Effectual obstructing the Exportation of Provisions and Warlike Stores from the Province of Pennsylvania, the same was delivered to the Secretary this afternoon at five o'Clock by Mr. Rush, the Smith, and the Council ordered a Copy to be served on the Colector and Naval Officer, which was done accordingly.

A Messenger was then Dispatched to Newcastle and Lewes with Embargos.

MEMORANDUM.

On the Twenty-fifth the Secretary delivered the Embargo act to the Speaker, that it might undergo the usual forms in the House; and, therefore, had omitted publishing the act till it should be signed by the Speaker.

I must therefore desire you will now with the open-ness of heart becoming Brethren give me your Reasons against my Attending at this Meeting, for without some Extraordinary Emergency, I shall be very unwilling to leave it. I have given to our Brethren at Onondaga [illegible] in all matters either of war or of importance I am desirous of [illegible] when any Engagement [illegible]. You will therefore Brethren [illegible] the matter as you [illegible] in your Regard to me with candour

a Belt —

Fort Johnson 13 May 1756.
P.M.

In Continuance with the Conference of yesterday.

Present as before —

Abraham the Chief Sachem of the upper Mohawk Castle spoke as follows.

Addressed the 5 Nations present

You have referred it to our Nation to deliver the general Sentiments of all the people [illegible] to us last night, and I am now going to do so.

Brother Warraghiyagey

We were asked to speak our opinion in relation to the intended Meeting at Onondaga. We have all taken that Affair into our serious consideration, the result whereof we will proceed to lay before you.

Brother When you were at Lake George

We were told by the Governor of New York who was [illegible] from England that only the [illegible] to [illegible] the 5 Nations together.

[illegible] Meetings with us in [illegible] in order to unite the Differences between [illegible] the Dela[illegible] and [illegible] Indians at the Meeting [illegible] that we were the Head or Masters [illegible] Indians [illegible] desired [illegible] would take the Hatchet out of their hands. [illegible] the 5 Nations took the Affair into consideration [illegible] a Council at [illegible] sent some of their [illegible] forward to summon the [illegible] to their Meetings. The 5 Nations [illegible] to attend at the [illegible] time [illegible] to [illegible] themselves [illegible] their [illegible] Affair at our Meeting [illegible] the [illegible]

Brother [illegible] at the afore-mentioned Meetings [illegible] account of the [illegible] you [illegible] and [illegible] again together. [illegible] after you had given us this notice of the Governor's Intentions, [illegible] the Onondagas are included, they should take upon them to invite you to their Meeting at Onondaga.

Brother

[illegible] will [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] at the Conferences [illegible] [illegible] ended Meeting [illegible] [illegible] should ask you [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Pro[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] thinks [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] themselves [illegible] to have [illegible] [illegible] Meeting at [illegible]

Everything [illegible] [illegible] Eyes we [illegible] [illegible] this Meeting [illegible] of the [illegible]

Brother [illegible] [illegible] Letter in [illegible] [illegible] thought [illegible] [illegible] Juncture [illegible] you [illegible] [illegible] might [illegible] into the Enemies hands. At this time [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] from your houses we [illegible] [illegible] you [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Brother [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Brothers [illegible] [illegible] hear [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] we shall give out [illegible] for [illegible] and if any accident happens to you what will become of your own Brethren the [illegible] as well as we, for we see no Body else who is any ways active but you who are ready to march on every Alarm, and indeed with

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[illegible] [illegible] when formerly you were put in power you were always ready to [illegible] your [illegible] [illegible]

Brother

Another reason [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] to [illegible] that if you [illegible] to the Mohawks of [illegible] we all determined to attend you [illegible] [illegible] by which many of our [illegible] exposed to the heavy [illegible] [illegible] given we don't appre[illegible] any just Blame laid upon you for breaking your word with the Onondagas [illegible] to [illegible] with con[illegible] step into this Bark I am [illegible] come down to you as the bark now goes easily [illegible] down Stream whereas it will be a long [illegible] our journey for you loaded with the necessaries they are for.

Gave a Belt.

To the foregoing speech Sir William Johnson answered in the [illegible] [illegible] as follows

Brethren of the several Nations now present

I have heard what [illegible] again [illegible] going to Onondaga according to my promise [illegible] [illegible] without their Weight and the [illegible] going at this juncture would be attended with other risks between

Sure of meeting the Delaware & Shawanese Indians
there I would enter the Business in hand & go.
If you think they will not be there and it is now
the middle of the Spring [illegible] by Report
you will advise me what Persons we shall
send there to meet them & Encourage them
[illegible]

Friday 14 May P. M.

At a Meeting [illegible] as before

The Indians [illegible] Col. Johnson & the
Albany Commissrs. [illegible] to answer
what he had [illegible] yesterday Evening,
[illegible] with a String
of [illegible]

Brother Warraghiyagey

Yesterday you recommended it to us to
consider whether it would be proper to imme=
diately [illegible] We have
maturely considered this affair and think it
will be right to send forthwith a proper
Person to Onondaga to see if the Delaware
& Shawanese Indians are met there accord=
ing to their appointment and we have
fixt on two Persons for that Business, namely
Brandt's Son Thomas of the lower Mohawk
Castle & a Seneca Warrior called Silver heels

Here they held a small Consultation,
after wch. the Speaker went on & said

Br.

[illegible] of making the [illegible] [illegible] Indians
[illegible] [illegible] under the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
If you [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
you will [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] we had
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible]

Tuesday 14 May p. M.

The Meeting present as before

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] to the
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] with [illegible]
[illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] to
order that it should appear to be imme-
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] we have
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] & we think it
will be right to send forth with a proper
Person to Onondaga to see if the Delaware
Shawanese Indians are met there accord-
ing to their Appointment and we have
fixt on two Persons for the Business, namely
Brandt's Son Thomas & [illegible] [illegible]
Capt. [illegible] Warrior called [illegible]

Here they held a small consultation,
after wh. the Speaker went on & said

Bro.

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[illegible] what

[illegible] of [illegible] Canada

[illegible] there

[illegible] meeting of the Officers with [illegible]

[illegible] not [illegible]

[illegible] West [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] might

be [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] lately which

[illegible] to [illegible]

the [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] to go

there [illegible] with [illegible]

[illegible] Onon-

[illegible]

[illegible] also if they find

[illegible] there [illegible] shall give

[illegible] to stay [illegible]

[illegible] I will [illegible] here but if they are

[illegible] to [illegible] the

[illegible] you I would defer meeting the Nations till [illegible] at Oswego.

Brethren

The Meeting w^ch I mentioned to you last Winter w^d might take place early, [illegible] in the name of the Gen^l. & [illegible] [illegible] Settlement [illegible] that affairs & the [illegible] important Matters w^ch requiring his Attention at this [illegible] have prevented its holding the Meeting as he intended and you will likewise remember that [illegible] there was a very great Meeting at the first Summer at Oswego for these [illegible] taken [illegible] to [illegible] [illegible] time [illegible] [illegible] call me early to Oswego to attend to attend the Meeting w^ch is appointed there for the Western Indians.

[illegible] the [illegible] & are [illegible] to this Meeting

Saturday [illegible] May A M.

At a Meeting of several of the Sachems & others of the Lower Mohawk Castle S^r William gave the following Answer to their Speech of the 12. Ins^t.

Brethren

I have considered what you mentioned to me about fencing in your Corn & helping you to plant it, and also of your request about the Persons to command in your Fort.

As to the first if you will look out for proper persons who will undertake to repair your Fences & assist you in planting your Corn [illegible]

their

Fort Johnson May 15th. 1756

Sir

I hope these may find you and your Party in perfect health and good situation;

Mr. Montour, Skaronyadi and the rest of the Indians remember their kind Respects to you and desir'd me to let you know that they are safe arriv'd at the Mohawks were the most of them reside at Sir William Johnsons Seat as yet; And as by their leaving you they promiſed to let you hear from them when arriv'd among their Friends the six Nations, they agreed to send the Bearer hereof, Ogaghradarisha and the Indian that was at Philadelphia in Order to acquaint you of every thing that is going on in these parts.

They likewise let you know that there is in a short time a General Treaty to be held at Oswego with the six Nations and all the Indian Nations which will come and join the English, where they say they must be present in Order to deliver all the Meſsages they were charg'd with from the Government of Pennsylvania and as soon as that Treaty wou'd be over ſome of them wou'd come down to Shamokin and relate every thing transacted;

They expect these Meſsengers wou'd be well wed in particular the old Man Ogaghradarisha as he was a noted Friend of the English, and known by the Province of Pennsylvania, and was charged with important Meſsages to all the Nations on Susquehannah concerning the State of matters wth the English and Delawares;

They lastly request of you immediately to dispatch Letters of every Thing he would relate to you to his honor Governour Morris that he might bring an Answer to them how every Thing was ſituated in that Province and at Shamokin as he is sent on purpose to ſee whether you was at Shamokin and how affairs stood as well wth you as the Province of Pennsylvania that they might Act accordingly, after the Treaty of Oswego being over. {all this they confirm with the inclos'd String of Wampum

Every thing here goes on pretty well Oswego is at Presant in a tolerable ſituation concerning Provisions &c. and shall do well enough this Summer if the French dont plague our Provision Batteaux too much we are often alarm'd they threatned to Cut of the great Carrying Place or Burnets field in Order to ſtop our Communication; If it is confirm'd that Admiral Boscawen took the 11 Men of War with french Troops design'd for Canada, it will give a great shake to their Schemes for this Season; I hope to hear of your good Success & remain

Sir
your most humble Servant
Daniel Claus

To Colo. William Clapham

(2)

[illegible] the Nations
[illegible]

Brethren

[illegible] to
[illegible] like [illegible] early,
[illegible] in the same [illegible] part of the
[illegible]
[illegible] by
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] the
[illegible]
[illegible]
[illegible] appointed [illegible] for the
[illegible] Indian.

[illegible]
[illegible]

Saturday 18th May 1771.

[illegible] of the Lower Mohawk Castle Sr William gave the following Answer to their speech of the 12th Inst.

Brethren

I have considered what you mentioned to me about fencing in your Corn & helping you to plant it. Also of your request about the Person to command in your Cast-

As to the first, you will look out for proper persons who will undertake to repair your fences & assist you in planting your Corn ground

&c.

[illegible] with [illegible] getting the [illegible] ^both^ [illegible] to [illegible] you [illegible]

[illegible] Gentlemen

[illegible] the [illegible]

[illegible] I thank you [illegible] Persons are [illegible] with [illegible] you [illegible]

[illegible] when they [illegible] they [illegible] will take care to provide you with [illegible] in their own [illegible] &c

ADDRESSED:

To

Sir William Johnson Bar^{t}
att
Fort Johnson

INDORSED:

Oswego May 20 1756

Coll^{o}. Mercers Letter

JOURNAL OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Contemporary Copy[1]

Fort Johnson 20th. May 1756

Canaghquayeson, a Chief Sachem of Oneida, with two Young Indians One an Oneida, the other a Tuscarora, arrived this afternoon, & Canaghquayeson spoke as follows.

M^{r} Claus Interp^{r}.
Radt a Tuscorora Chief also present.

Brother Warraghiyagey

At the meeting you held with the Six Nations this last Winter, you pressed us so warmly, to take into consideration the hostilities comitted against our Brethren the English, by the Delawares and Shawonese Indians and to interpose our Influence and Authority over those Indians. To prevent any more Blood from being shed, that we could not avoid taking that matter upon us, and accordingly a Deputation from the six Nations was appointed to hold a Council with those Indians at Otsinenke, I was one who went there, and those Indians were so much convinced by the Arguments which we made use of that they repented what they had done, and solemnly promised, that they would not again hurt the hair of the Head of any Englishman, they told us they were thankfull the five Nations had put them in mind of their former Engagements, and that they woud now throw every thing that was evil behind their Backs, that they had been in Darkness, but now their Eyes were opened, and their minds made easy. The Indians who spoke to us in the foregoing manner, were Shawonese, Chickasaw's and Mohickanders, who further told us that they had at several times sent Belts of Wampum to the Delawares who live at Tiahogo with Messages to forward to the Six Nations, which they neglected to do, that for the future they were determined to address themselves to the Six Nations directly, and would attend any meeting, which their Brother Warraghiyagey woud call them to, and woud be glad to take him by the Hand.

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[1] In Maryland Historical Society, Gilmor Papers, Vol. 2, Division 2, No. 8, Baltimore, Md.

Brother,

One of the Skaniyadaradighrono's who live near the aforesaid Indians came to Oneida about 10 days ago, and told us, that the aforesaid Indians had applied to the Delawares, who live at Tiahogo to accompany them to the proposed Meeting at Onondaga, which they refused to do, saying that one Thomas McKee, who lives upon the Susquahannah, and is Married to a Shawonese Squa had told them, that in 10 days time an Army of the English woud come and destroy them, and said to them further, "You cant think that as you have Murdered the English, from Canastoga to Esopus, that they will put up with it Quietly. And Warraghiyagey may pretend to make up peace with you, but that is not in his Power, the Governor of Pennsylvania is Master this way who will not listen to Peace." The Tiahoga Indians said they woud not therefore leave home but prepare to defend themselves against the hostile Intentions of the English, and that they had sent out ten Men as Scouts to observe the motions of the English.

Brother./

When we received this Intelligence at Oneida, we imediatly sent a Message to the Delawares at Tiahoga, insisting upon their attending the Meeting at Onondago.

A true Extract from the Records
Examined by me.
PETER WRAXALL Sec^{y}.

a true Copy examined by me
BENJ^{A}: BARONS
Secretary.

INSTRUCTIONS FOR CLAAS DE GRAEF

Copy[1]

[*Fort Johnson, May 20, 1756*]

Instructions for M^{r}. Claas de Graaf head Carpenter going to the Seneca Country to build a Fort for those Indians.

You are to repair with your best Diligence with the Men under your Direction to the Senecas Country & there to consult with the Indians of that Nation on a proper Spot to build a Fort. Unless they unanimously agree upon another, I would have it built on the Lake side on a clear Spot of Ground w^{ch} M^{r}. Wemp who goes with you as Interpreter had described to me. This Fort is to be one hundred & fifty feet Square — the Logs to be either of Pine or Oak, Sixteen feet long, four feet of which to be set in the Ground well rammed & pounded; two sides of each Log to be squared so as they may stand close to each other, proper loop Holes to be cut at four feet distance, the heights from the ground to be left to the Indians. Two good block Houses to be built at either of the opposite Corners, each block House to be twenty four feet square below, the upper part above the Beams to project a Foot so as men may fire down upon the Enemy.

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[1] In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada, Indian Records, Vol. 4.

[illegible] Nation was appointed to have [illegible] Seneca. I was one [illegible] those Indians [illegible] much con- [illegible] the comments which were made [illegible] that [illegible] what they had done [illegible] promised that [illegible] would not again [illegible] he had [illegible] [illegible] had not [illegible] that they were [illegible] [illegible] made [illegible] the [illegible] that [illegible] at Council [illegible] [illegible] Oneida Nation which [illegible] for the cause [illegible] [illegible] Washington [illegible] would [illegible] them [illegible] thousand.

Further [illegible] the [illegible] agency was [illegible] the aforesaid [illegible] to Oneida [illegible] that the aforesaid Indians [illegible] Niagara [illegible] which they refused to do, saying that [illegible] McKee [illegible] that in 10 days time [illegible] they [illegible] father "you must think that

20.

"That [illegible] from
"[illegible]
"with [illegible]

[illegible]

27th [illegible] several Letters from [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] that the [illegible] arrived at Oswego with a great [illegible] [illegible] Cabin [illegible] that all the Troops from [illegible] were to surround [illegible] they [illegible] to [illegible] with Oswego [illegible] Ensign [illegible] one of the Officers who came from Oswego says he was three years with the Regt. at Philadelphia where often [illegible] the Prize of

Cutting

15

[illegible] by the ~~[illegible]~~ of the Enemy.

Brother
You must not [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] things for [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] but I am [illegible] [illegible] to inform you [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] People who are greatly [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] their Stories.

[illegible] [illegible] 1756.

The unhappy [illegible] being [illegible] [illegible] Settlement [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] to have [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] David [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Sir William [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] 3 Strings of Wampum [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] them to Unanimity & Brotherly love, setting forth the [illegible] & Danger of Jealousy & Divisions amongst them at this critical Juncture. During these Animosities amongst them, One Party had applied for a Fort & the other was against having One. Sir William told them that if they would follow his Admonitions & be reconciled together he would then comply with what they should unanimously resolve.

This Evening the aforesaid David arrived here with 3 Strings of Wampum & made the following Speech.

Brother Warraghiyagey
Our People have listened to your good Advice & we have had a general Meeting of all the Sachems & Warriors belonging to our Settlement together with the [illegible]

[illegible] as you are [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] supply
the wants of those [illegible] Indians who are lately come
[illegible] amongst us [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] they are unprovided with every thing.

Gave 3 Strings of Wampum.

[illegible] the foregoing S.r William [illegible] said

Brother
I am [illegible] to [illegible] that [illegible] your
[illegible] [illegible] are [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the Alliance
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] to your Welfare as I
[illegible] always done [illegible] supply the wants
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] under your [illegible].

Three Strings of Wampum

At Canajoharie [illegible] May 17[illegible]. [illegible]

S.r William Johnson's answer to Canna-
joharie & the other Indians who spoke the
[illegible] [illegible] 1754 –

[illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Brethren
I thank you for the intelligence you
have given me concerning the southern Indians
& heartily wish they may pay some regard
to

[illegible] [illegible] w.d have [illegible] [illegible] them
in the [illegible] [illegible] ways & [illegible] [illegible] as
it will be [illegible] their true [illegible]

Br[illegible]

I am not so much surprised at
[illegible] the silly & ill behaviour with the
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] but [illegible] [illegible] People
[illegible] their [illegible] to [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] their Backs [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] forefathers
for many generations [illegible] that
[illegible] [illegible] in every [illegible] far from
shewing [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] that you
had [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] to drive out [illegible]
or your [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] &
[illegible] and [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] to [illegible]
[illegible] Children [illegible] your Request & appointed me
to the Management of your Affairs [illegible] they
[illegible] me [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] as they [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] Fathers [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] English
[illegible] [illegible] only [illegible] but every foolish [illegible] don't
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] are
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] country which to secure
themselves [illegible] whilst you [illegible] [illegible] abominable
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] they
[illegible] Friends and Brothers it not [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] on [illegible] assured that

there

those who Cowardly & Treacherously desert from the Cause of their King & Country can be Friends to none but deserve to be despised & abhorred by all Mankind Such People are worse than the French themselves, and if your People had acted like wise Men & faithful Brethren they would not either have believed or harboured these Villains but have brought them down to me & you would have seen how like Traytors & Liars they would have appeared. Brethren I must insist upon it that whenever such People come among you & stir up Discontents & suspicions against your Brethren the English that you bring them down Prisoners to me & by that means you will give a convincing proof that you are true & faithful Friends to your Father the Great King & Brethren the English [illegible] by this [illegible] I hope & desire that your Nation will not be so ready to listen to Lyes & idle Stories against your Brethren the English as you have been often apt to do & which but too clearly appears in this Instance.

gave a Belt of Wampum

Fort Johnson 22 May 1756.
A.M.

Sir William Johnson spoke to the Indians who were come to him with the Indians of the [illegible] Castle

Children

203.

[illegible] replyed that they were not at present capable with the Company to make an Answer [illegible] would take an Opportunity of soon [illegible]ing

Fort Johnson [illegible] May [illegible] 56.
p. m.

[illegible] Sons Thomas One of the Messengers [illegible] sent the 16 Inst to Onondaga [illegible] came [illegible] this afternoon with [illegible] [illegible] & [illegible] of the lower Mohawk Castle & the Heads of the [illegible] in order to give an account of the Journey he was sent about to Onondaga. At the Meeting was also present the Old Belt a great Seneca Sachem his Son Arosa who went with Thomas, another Seneca Indian [illegible] Sachem.

[illegible] spoke [illegible] of the [illegible] spoke as follows

Gentlemen

I am now going to give our Brother Warraghiyagey an Account of what our Messengers have reported concerning the Affair they were sent upon and shall begin from their arrival at Onondaga.

Brother

When they came to Onondaga a Meeting was called but there were no Sachems nor any other Indians [illegible].

At the Meeting our Messengers delivered what they had in charge.

[illegible] the Onondagas when our Messengers had done spoke as follows.

[illegible]

"Tell our [illegible] ~~were~~ shall [illegible] — that upon our Brother [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] make its appearance among [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] not [illegible] [illegible] Church [illegible] [illegible] compelled [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] whore [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] lovely [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] will [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] ~~[illegible]~~ unmounted [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] every [illegible] of [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] will be [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] great confidence in [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] they [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] that [illegible]

from

[illegible] would then [illegible] at Circumstances [illegible] the Brethren will be pleased to be [illegible] ready to set off when they hear our Brother Warraghiyagey is on the road.

[illegible] Chiefs [illegible] the distant [illegible] [illegible] Nations [illegible] that they might [illegible] & the importance & they [illegible] [illegible] take [illegible]

[illegible] Brother Warraghiyagey [illegible] you to know [illegible] had [illegible] desired [illegible] to invite them to meet him at Oswego that [illegible] at the [illegible] Nations but [illegible] will not meet at Oswego but will [illegible] of the [illegible] will [illegible] that there will [illegible] go hearing each other speak.

[illegible] all our [illegible] we took the [illegible] & Shawanese [illegible] them & that they think [illegible] for by to hold them in our Arms & prevent their defending themselves [illegible] People are [illegible] their [illegible] to destroy them

* It is supposed the 4 or 500 Men under Col. Clapham [illegible] of Pensilvania raised [illegible] to build a [illegible] Shamokin is here meant.

100. [illegible]

100.

[illegible] building [illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] consider [illegible]

[illegible] that [illegible]

[illegible]

yet we think you [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] this Week [illegible] the [illegible] Mohawk Castle [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] with [illegible] to you

Brother [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] out on the [illegible] we [illegible] you our farther [illegible] [illegible] as the Senecas [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] endeavour to [illegible] therefore we earnestly intreat you to [illegible] number of Men with [illegible] [illegible] the Five Nations [illegible] they [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] well [illegible] that the Nations [illegible] [illegible] ready [illegible] [illegible] shall [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] Brother [illegible] [illegible] Men [illegible] [illegible] not [illegible]

Brother [illegible] [illegible] this Conference & that you will take [illegible] Strong Body of Men [illegible] [illegible] immediately [illegible] [illegible] with [illegible] become very [illegible] [illegible] you that when you come to the [illegible] Falls you will send forward a Message to the upper Nations not to be surprized or alarmed that you are

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* they here mean the Militia of the Country.

[illegible] you [illegible] the expend you [illegible] about [illegible] charge [illegible] the [illegible] confession [illegible] your relation [illegible] were obliged to [illegible]

[illegible] that we [illegible] to [illegible] our [illegible] brother in your [illegible] will be expected [illegible] you will [illegible] that [illegible] number [illegible] spring [illegible]

your [illegible]

[illegible] charge [illegible] with [illegible] left to deliver [illegible] you don't, they [illegible] that they will [illegible] by the [illegible], and [illegible] the [illegible] their [illegible] who are now [illegible] your [illegible] brother will [illegible] their request [illegible] public matter upon you [illegible]

[illegible] your [illegible]

Brig.

Brother I have now finished what we had to say & only want to know the Day you propose to set off.

Sr. William's Answer

Brethren I am well pleased you Consent that my going up to Onondaga at this Juncture is highly necessary. As to the Number of Men you thought proper for me to take along as a Reinforcement for the new Mohawk Castle as well as a guard to my Person, I have already mentioned it by Letter to Major Genl. Shirley who is His Majesty's Commander in chief, I will now send an Express to him with what you have said to me & when I have his Answer I will immediately communicate it to you & at the same time let you know the Day I shall set out for Onondaga.

Fort Johnson 20 May 1756

[illegible]

Sr. William Johnson's Speech to
Seth a Chief Sachem of the Schoharie Indians

Brother I am informed that the Indians who are lately come from different parts to settle at your Castle, dont act brotherly by the People [illegible], but kill their Cattle & Hogs &c behave in a disorderly manner.

Brother, as these are unbecoming & very unjustifiable Proceedings and as these Indians are now come to incorporate themselves with your Castle I desire & expect that you & your [illegible] will interpose your Authority & Influence to prevent the repetition of any such

My Clerk who was at Albany
tells me he could not get a
Battoe or Man from the Justices at
Schenectady to whom he applied, the provisions & Severall Articles of Indian Goods for ye. present lye there for want of Battoes. Wherefore I should be glad Yr. Excellency would order the Justices there to supply me wth. what Battoes & Hands I may Want, also Covers for them.

INDORSED:[1]

May 26th 1756
My letter to Genrl. Shirley
abt. Onondaga Meeting
and a Party of Men
Some things Material.

AN INDIAN CONGRESS

Copy[2]

Fort Johnson 28 May 1756. P. M

At a Meeting of several Sachims & Warriors of the lower Mohack Castle & some other Indians of the Six Nations with a Party of River Indians who formerly lived on the Frontiers between this Province & New Jersy & enlisted themselves in the Battoe Service.

Mr. Montour Interpr.

Canadagai the chief Sachem of the Mohock Castle addressed himself to the River Indians & spoke as follows

Nephews.

When you were going up to Oswego some time ago, you made a Speech with a Belt of Wampum wch now lies before us to some of our People, but they were not a sufft. Body to give

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[1] In Johnson's hand.

[2] In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada, Indian Records, Vol. 4.

Answer upon Matters of consequence. We are now a proper Number of the 6 Nations present at this our fire Place, and we desire you will therefore take yr. said Belt & let us know what you have to say.

Then one of the Cheifs of the River Indians took up the Belt & spoke as follows.

Uncles

You must excuse our Inexperience in public Conferences; since you conquered us we have lived like a lost scattered People, & the Rum we get from the English hath drowned the Memory of all anteint Customs & the Method of treating on public affairs.

Uncles

We have here a Child of yours (pointing to an Indian present) his Mother was a Seneca Woman & we hope you will receive him as one of the Six Nations & whenever you think proper to fix him we shall be willing to be placed with our Wives & Families. We are desirous of being under your immediate protection & hope you will take care of us.

Uncles

The English in our way up to Oswego where we went to earn a penny to support our Wives & Children who are in a distressed Condition, abused & threatened us for Murdering their People on the Frontiers of Pensilvania, New Jersey & New York; we are entirely innocent of any such thing, and these Accusations very much alarmed us as we are an unsettled & defenceless People; we were dubious in what manner to behave, but we hope now you will interpose & prevent any ill effects of those Accusations by taking Notice of us as your Nephews.

Gave a Belt

To this Speech Canadagai answered

Nephews.

We are sensible that the little Correspondance we have had together for a great Number of years, must naturally put you under some difficulties with regard to the usual Ceremonies on public Meetings.

Nephews.

We are very willing & desirous that you should come & live[1] near us & we will grant you our assistance & protection, and our Brother Warraghyjagey here told us that he will contribute to the support of you & your Families till you become a little settled.

Nephews

We would have you come this way with your Families as soon as possible that we may be able to accquaint your Brethren the Delawares of it & that you are under our protection w^{ch} may tend to make them easy on your Account & convince them that the Report of your being taken Prisoners & made Slaves of by the English is groundless & Malicious, which we hope will tend to compose those Disturbances that the Delaware & Shawanese Indians have occasioned to the Southward.

Gave a Belt.

hereupon the River Indians replyed

Uncles

You have made our Hearts light by y^{r} freindly Notice of & Promises to us & all our late Uneasiness is now removed.

Uncles

We are light & can soon Move, but we have engaged our selves to the English in the Battoe Service for a time & it is not yet expired, however as we have now put ourselves under your protection & Guidance we will be ruled by you.

Canadagai answered

Nephews

As to your Engagements in the Battoe Service we refer that matter to our Bro^{r}. Warraghyjagey & what he advises you to do therein we would have you conform to & it will be satisfactory to us.

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[1] *See* Johnson to the magistrates of Fishkills, May 28, 1756.

Sr. William Johnson then spoke to the River Indians as follows.

Children

I am pleased that you have so prudently applied to your Uncles the 6 Nations & put yourselves under their protection & that they have so kindly & readily opened their Arms to receive you. As to your Engagement with the Battoes I think two of you will be suff' to go & bring up your Women & Children & I will give you Letters to the People in Authority where your Families are that you may meet with no Molestation or hindrance in the bringing them away, and when you come up I will take care of you & supply your wants till you are able to do for yourselves, and I join with your Uncles in Opinion that the sooner you come up the better

gave 3 Strings Wampum

To which they replyed, that they were very thankfull for Sr. Williams Promises to them & had fixt on two of their People to go down, but desired a White Man might be sent with them to prevent any Misunderstanding & facilate the removal of their Families.

Sr. William told them he would send an Interpreter with them & accordingly wrote the following Letter to Jacobus Clement Intrepr. at Albany.

You are to accompany these River Indians to the Fish Kilns & speak to the Magestrates & People in power there to give them no Molestation or hindrance but forward them on their Journey up here, as their coming to live among the Mohocks will be of great Service to the public; you are to take great care that they do not get in Liquor nor have any conversation with the Soldiers at Albany or by the Way. When they arrive at Albany you are to come up with them directly in the Cheapest manner you can. inclosed is £10 to defray the Expences, use frugality & Discretion

Yours

WILL. JOHNSON

JOURNAL OF INDIAN AFFAIRS

Copy[1]

[*May 30–June 1, 1756*]

Fort Johnson 30 May 1756.

P. M.

The chief Sachems & Warriors of the lower Mohock Castle came hither & desired to say something to S^r^. William Johnson, being seated Canadagai the cheif Sachem spoke as follows

Mr. Montour Interpr.

An Oneida Warrior present.

Brother Warraghyjagey

The daily Accounts we receive of the Designs of the French in general & their threatenings of you in particular, occasions our comeing to you this time about your going to Onondaga.

Brother

We are extreamely alarmed & uneasy about it & are absolutely against your venturing up thither. if harm should happen to you We are a lost & ruined people — you are the principal Tie that keeps the 6 Nations together. We cannot comprehend why the Onondagas are so very urgent for your going up when the road is so dangerous the Governor of Canada never goes into the Indians Country to meet them but they come to meet him.

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[1] In Canadian Public Archives, Ottawa, Canada, Indian Records, Vol. 4.

SIR W^{M} JOHNSON TO THE BOARD OF TRADE.

Fort Johnson, 28th May 1756.

MY LORDS,

My last Letter to Your Lordships bore date the 6 March, therewith I had the honour to transmit a Copy of my Proceedings in Indian Affairs from the time of my arrival from Lake George to that date.

I have since received Mr. Secretary Pownals Letter bearing date the 2 Dec^{r} w^{ch} Your Lordships did me the honour to direct him to write me.

Gen^{l} Shirleys interfering in Indian Affairs & that with so much personal Resentment & such Prejudices against my management, was a matter of as much surprize as it was Mortification to me. I had many reasons to think I stood high in that Gentlemans opinion, which I had always endeavoured to deserve & to strengthen. If my sense of Duty to that part of His Majestys Service w^{ch} his Royal Orders had entrusted to my Management, had not unfortunately obliged me to have differed with M^{r} Shirley in Opinion, I should not have troubled Your Lordships with a Detail on that disagreeable subject—but as it did affect that part of His Majestys Service I thought I could not consistent with my Duty be silent to your Lordships thereon.

Tho I have reasons to beleive I have lost Gen^{l} Shirleys Friendship & Confidence w^{ch} I wish myself honoured with for the good of His Majestys Service so far as it is connected with my Department; yet he hath of late silenced those Agents he set up in Opposition to me & of whose Conduct I complained to Your Lordships—

I have the honour herewith to transmit to Your Lordships a Copy of my Proceedings since the date of the last I sent.

The Slaughters & Devastations which have been committed on the Frontiers of His Majestys Southern Provinces, I doubt not y^{r} Lordships have received particular accounts of from their respective Governors—It is certain that some of the Delaware & Shawanes Indians have been concerned in these Hostilities. till very lately those Indians were faithful Friends to us & lived in a peaceful & Harmonious Intercourse with his Majestys Subjects. What are the several & real causes of their Defection, I cannot take upon me at present precisely to ascertain.

I beg leave to offer to Your Lordships my general Opinion from all I can as yet gather on the Subject—

I would premise that the Defection of the Delaware & Shawanese Indians is not general, many I believe yet remain, if not firm to our Interest, not wholly lost to it.—

These Indians were settled in the Neighbourhood of the French Encroachments on the Ohio, some were settled where the French have now Actually built Forts when His Majestys Troops under the late Gen^{l} Braddock were defeated, it gave the French who remained Mas^{trs} of all that part of the Country an Opportunity to strengthen and increase their Indian Interest & Influence, they flattered they boasted & by persuasive & intimiditating Acts they won over several of those Indians who were before in our Interest and some who held themselves as it were neutral till they saw how the Event of that Expedition would turn out. Of these latter were the Twightwees, the Jenundadees & some of Chickesaw Indians who are as I am lately informed fallen in with the French Interest, but I apprehend more from hear than Choice.

Those Delaware & Shawanese Indians who live nearest to the Ohio being seduced by the French, went amongst their Bretheren who dwelt on the Susquahanna, & propagated those prejudices against the good Intentions of the English w^{ch} the French had furnished them with at the same time making them offers & Promises from the French & magnifying their prowess, kindness & generosity; by these means they won over some & spread a general prepossession amongst the rest against the English.

The Great Patents of Land w^{ch} had been purchased & taken up in those parts & our extended scattered Settlements beginning to crowd upon the Indians, had been a long Eye sore to them, infected them with Jealousy & disgust towards the English & they prepared them to be more easily influenced by the prosperity of the French Affairs & the ill success of our Arms; and when they saw after M^{r} Braddocks Defeat & Death, our Military Opperations ended as it were to the Southward & carried to the Northward, they joined the French and their Indians in their Depradations upon the Open & Defenceless Frontiers of those Provinces.

The Third & last cause I shall suggest is my suspicion that these Indians who used to be more immediately under the direction of the Southern Provinces, had been either neglected or injudiciously treated at that critical time when the greatest address was requisite; something of this kind is hinted in the last proceedings w^{ch}. I transmitted to your Lordships.

These hints I humbly submit to your Lordships consideration, as this is a very important affair, I apprehended I might with propriety offer my thoughts thereon. There are some other particulars relative to this subject for w^{ch} I beg leave to refer your Lordships to the Papers herewith. In those your Lordships will perceive a Meeting at Onondaga was proposed by the Southern Indians in consequence of a Deputation sent to them at my earnest request by the Six Nations, at w^{ch}. I agreed to be present & named the Day. but as I was from Informations very doubtful whether the Southern Indians were come to Onondaga according to their appointment, and the Two Mohock Castles with some other Indians of all the 6 Nations (except the Onondagas) were so averse to my attending this meeting at this critical juncture, I thought it would be prudent to be certain whether those Indians were actually at Onondaga before I undertook my journey thither, as the meeting them was my chief inducement for promising to go there, Messengers were accordingly dispatcht, & y^{r} Lordships will see the Answer they have brought from the Onondaga Indians, and that they are so extremely pressing for my coming up & give such cogent reasons for it that I apprehend the good of His Majestys service will not dispense with my refusal, I am therefore preparing to set off so as to be there by the time appointed & I have Gen^{l}. Shirleys concurrence herein. I hope to meet some of the Delaware & Shawanese Indians there & if so, to talk over & settle matters with them on such a footing as may be very Beneficial to his Majestys service in general & the Tranquility of the Southern Provinces in particular. Besides this general Meeting appears to be necessary on account of those uneasinesses & jealousies w^{ch}. the Onondagas make mention of & which I find more or less prevails at present amongst most of the Indians of the Six Nations. One cause of which is from the Deserters of Gen^{l}. Shirleys & S^{r}. W^{m}. Pepperils Regments in which are I apprehend a great number of Irish Papists & Transports who were enlisted from the back parts of Pensilvania & Maryland they desert from Oswego & other Garrisons up this River, shelter themselves amongst the Indians of the Six Nations or pass thro their Country in their way to the back parts of those Provinces from whence they were enlisted & where they have Acquaintances & Confederates. from Malice & Policy, they pretend a great affection for the Indians, & invent Lying stories to justifie their quitting the service & ingratiate themselves with the Indians, who seeing they are surrounded by our present Armaments, being naturally prone to suspicion & the French continually working upon this their Disposition by false and artful representations of our views & measures, render these Reports of the Deserters more credible & pernicious. I am informed there are great numbers of them amongst the Delaware & Susquahana Indians who have done a World of prejudice to our Interest. I represented this matter to Gen^{l}. Shirley & proposed to him to impower me to offer the Indians handsome rewards for taking up & delivering such Deserters as may be or may come amongst them.

Gov^{r}. Morris has published a Declaration of War against the Delaware & Susquahanna Indians, & a small Body of Men are raised in that Gov^{t}. & marched to build a Fort at Shamokin a Branch of the Susquahanna River. Tho M^{r}. Morris has worded this Declaration with Restrictions in favor of all our Friend Indians, yet as it is published & this Fort building without previous Notice & Explanation given to our Indians it hath circulated amongst them in a confused manner & put in a bad Light by the Ignorance & probably the Malice of Reporters. And tho I am fully sensible that the horrible Cruelties & Devastations w^{ch}. the Southern Provinces & Pensilvania in particular have suffered, call for their most united & vigorous Resentments, yet I cannot but humbly be of Opinion that M^{r}. Morris' Declaration of War backed with so small a Force as the 400 Men he hath raised, was premature, & that it would have been more advisable if he had alowed me first to have acquainted the 6 Nations & our friend Indians living on the Susquahanna with his Intentions especially as M^{r}. Morris in behalf of Pensilvania had applied to me to lay the Hostile Behaviour of the Delawares & Shawanese before the 6 Nations at the Meeting last Winter & he was apprized of the Deputation w^{ch}. the 6 Nations had sent, yet before he knew the result of their Embassy, he published this Declaration of War, which as a friendly Meeting was agreed upon at Onondaga with a Prospect of accommodating all matters with the Delawares & Shawanese at least such of them as had not left their settlements & absolutely engaged themselves to the French. I beg leave to observe to Your Lordships that while Affairs were thus circumstanced, I think M^{r}. Morris' Declaration of War had better been postponed till the Meeting at Onondaga had been over, when a better Judgment might have been formed to regulate his Proceedings.

By perusing the Papers herewith I conceive your Lordships will find there is a Foundation for the Observations I have made on M^{r}. Morris' Conduct. My sentiments on this matter I have communicated to Gen^{l}. Shirley & S^{r}. Charles Hardy who have transmitted them to Gov^{r}. Morris.

I have reason to believe M^{r}. Morris' Declaration of War, by Misrepresentations has not only alarmed the Six Nations, but will prevent the Southern Indians from coming to Onondaga & throw fresh Difficulties in the way of bringing about an Accommodation with the remainder of those Indians who were yet in a retrievable state.

Another thing before I finish this interesting subject seems to me of sufficient importance to mention to Your Lordships.

The half King and some other Indians of the 6 Nations were lately at Philadelphia. Gov^{r}. Morris had a Conference with them, acquainted them with his Declaration of War & gave them a War Belt to offer the 6 Nations in his name in order to join & assist. At the same time he allowed the heads of the Quakers who he well knew violently opposed all his Warlike Measures, to have a Meeting with the same Indians. They had & they sent me a Copy of what passed & they gave the half King a Belt of Peace to present to the Six Nations in their name, telling them they were Descendants of the peaceable Penn that there were great Numbers of their Brethren in that Province who were averse to War & whose principles were to suffer Injuries & leave Heaven to protect & avenge their Cause &c. &c.

These contradictory Measures & these Opposite Belts, the half King reported & showed a few days ago at a small meeting of some of all the 6 Nations (except the Onondagas) at my house The Indians could not conceal their surprise that One Province should produce such Contradictions. And Your Lordships will I believe be of Opinion that it would do no great honour to our political Talents.

My Lords

I am sensible I am taking up a great deal of your Lordships time, but if I am not greatly mistaken the subjects I have and shall lay before you are of such importance to the British Indian Interest as will I hope justifie me in Your Lordships Opinion.

In my last Letter I gave it as my real sentiments to y^{r} Lordships that the Indians of the 6 nations had discovered at the then meeting, the strongest Intimations of their sincerity & fidelity, & that nothing seemed to be wanting to cement & enlarge our Indian Alliance but unanimous & vigourous Efforts against the common Enemy—

I will from no Motives My Lords misrepresent or conceal from Y^{r} Lordships what appears to me the true state of our Indian Interest. I am sorry therefore to acquaint Y^{r} Lordships that the 6 Nations in general & the upper Nations more particularly do not at present seem to be animated by so warm & active a Zeal in our favour as I could wish, & which it has been & shall be my unremitted Endeavours to inspire them with. Some of their Chiefs have in private conversation with me complained of our want of Vigor & good management in our Military Operations. They murmured at our inactivity last campaign at Oswego — They censured the weakness & knew the Deplorable state of that Important Garrison towards the latter end of last Winter for want of Provisions & told me they trembled for its Fate. They reproached us for laying up our Vessels the beginning of last October & that they do not yet appear on the Lake tho the French were sailing backwards & forwards the whole Winter. They were surprised the Great Carrying Place another very important post was so poorly fortified particularly at one end & such a handful of Troops left to protect it, They told the officers there that the French would certainly attack them & that it was not in a condition to make a good Defence. the event has shown they judged rightly & complained Justly. They reproach us with the Two regiments laying encampt at Albany & Schenectady & ask why they dont march against the French. I mention these complaints & reproaches of the Indians to Your Lordships, as Causes of discontent to them of their forming unfavourable Ideas of our Military Proceedings w^{ch} tends to damp their spirits towards us & nourish that Awe of the French which hath & doth too much prevail amongst them. I have endeavoured by every Method in my power to remove their Prejudices, but as they form their Judgments from appearances only, it is an extream difficult Task to work upon their understandings.

Another Cause of the 6 Nations standing in so much Awe of the French is the Great number of Western & Northern Indians in their Alliance & which hath been greatly strengthened since our unhappy defeat at the Ohio.

These Prejudices My Lords are not the only disadvantages we have to contend with in endeavouring to raise & keep up in their minds a reputable Opinion of our Power & Consequence. The Cayouge & Seneca Nation are near neighbours to Niagara; the Onondagas & Oniedas are in the Neighbourhood of Sweegachie a French settlement on the River S^{t} Lawrence to w^{ch} numbers of those two Nations have of late years been debauched & gone there to live. Tho our Indians do not now resort to these Places as frequent & familliarly as they formerly did yet some amongst them do occasionally visit there when the French & the Indians in their Interest, poison the Minds of ours with stories not only to the disadvantage of our good Intehtions towards them but endeavour to frighten them with pompous Accounts of the superior prowess & martial Abilities of the French. These things are propagated amongst them and the truth really is they have had more reason to think highly of the French in this way than of us.

But my Lords notwithstanding all these drawbacks upon the zeal and attachment of the Six Nations towards us, I am persuaded at this Instant & I hope I shall have when the approaching meeting at Onondaga is finished, stronger reasons to be persuaded, that if we were now ready to go upon Action from Oswego & things wore a formidable & favourable appearance, that the 6 Nations would join us with a Chearfulness and vigor which at present dos not so visibly appear. And I must beg leave to give it to your Lordships as my fixt opinion upon the most Deliberate Consideration, that the Six Nations will never be thoroughly fixt to the British Interest & Arms, until we strike some grand stroke & thereby convince them that we have ability to protect them & humble the French, without asserting our Dignity & Consequence in some such way as this, Presents & Treaties a Diligent & Skilful Managment may keep the 6 Nations Friends & Allies, but will not destroy the French Influence and Attachment amongst them.

Could we but give such a Convincing Proof of our Prowess, I will take upon me to answer for the Hearts & the hands of the Six Nations & to turn them with such Destructive Rage upon the French as would soon give a new Face to our affairs for this I am confident that the Six Nations almost to a man wish we had the upper hand of the French. They would not only I am persuaded thus exert themselves but bring over many great and powerful Nations to the Southward & Westward w^{ch}. might be facilitated by our management that way.

My Lords

It would not become me to animadvert upon our Military Conduct here & to take upon me to advise therein might be going beyond my Tether, but what I have said I hope comes from me in character & permit me My Lords to say in general, that speedy, spirited & active measures are absolutely necessary to support, strengthen & extend our Indian Interest provided the Sword is to be kept drawn.

I have in the former part of this Letter mentioned to your Lordships, that I am informed the Twightwees, the Ienundadee & some of the Chicksaw Indians have been obliged to submit themselves to the French since our Defeat at the Ohio & your Lordships will see that the Messasages who were invited by & promised M^{r}. Shirley to meet at Osswego this Summer will not meet there but will at any of the Settlements of the 6 Nations—as the former Indians I fear dare not and the Messasages will not meet at Oswego, I suspect the intended meeting of the Western Indians there will not take effect.

It happens very unluckily that by our Ships from England not arriving in their usual time this Spring, a sufficient quantity of Indian goods & things proper for Presents are not to be purchased, I have sent to New York, Philadelphia & Boston for several things but cannot get them.

S^{r}. Charles Hardy has consented I shall give some of the Arms & 600 lb of Powder & lead in his name out of His Majestys Presents sent by him to the 6 Nations I heartily wish I had the rest of it, I wrote to him there wuld be scarce a more favourable opportunity of giving said Present than at this meeting.

I would humbly propose to your Lordships that if His Majesty is pleased to continue me in the Superintendency of Indian Affairs, that I may be allowed to order such assortments of Indian Goods from England as are proper for the Service, I am convinced this will be a saving method to the Crown, & that the Indians will be much better supplied. The Presents w^{ch}. Gov^{rs}. have bro^{t}. from England here have been ill sorted, many Articles bad in their kind & some useless, particularly that essential Article of Arms.

On my return from Onondaga I shall transmit your Lordships Copy of my Proceedings there & gave you such further Intelligence as may occur.

I am my Lords
most respectfully
Y^{r}. Lordships

Forts are now building in the Seneca's. Country, at Onondaga, Oneida & Schohere. The Cayouga Indians have not yet applied, The Fort for the Aughquagas is upon the account of the Disturbances to the Southward, deferred till the meeting at Onondaga is over.

Memorandum on the back of the above letter.

100f^{t}. square the Stockad^{s} P. or Ok 15f^{t}. long 3 of w^{ch}. at least to be sunk in the ground well pounded & rammed & y^{e} 2 touching sides square so as to lay close Loop holes to be made 4f^{t} dis^{e}. ; 2 Bl. H^{ses}. 20f^{t}. sq. below & above to project 1½ foot over y^{e} Beams well roofd & shingled & a good Sentry Box on the top of each. a good Gate of 3 In^e oak Pl. & iron hinges & a small Gate of Oak Plank of same thick^s.

Endorsed.

Fort Johnson May 28^th 1756

My Letter to the Lords
of Trade & Plantations
with Indn. Proceedings.

EXTRACT FROM SIR WILLIAM JOHNSTONS PROCEEDINGS AT THE INDIAN CONGRESS AT ONONDAGA.

The Informations of an Oneida Indian who hath Resided for Some time past at Swegachie and latly Came from Canada.

That the French had Assembled in the Neibourhood of Cadaraghqui and Swegachie about 800 Indians, Ottowawas and Other Nations. That upon his and the Other Swegachie Indians Return from Onondaga they were Determined to march 2000 Men to the Oswego falls (about 12 Miles from Oswego) Their Build a Strong Fort, and Prevent Provisions, or Reinforcements from going by Water to Oswego. That another party were to March the New Road from Swegachie, and Build a Fort at the West End of the Oneida Lake, When these Posts were Secured, a Third Party were to make a Descent upon the German Flatts, Destroy our Magazine there, cut off the Garrison and Inhabitants and burn the Settlements, A fourth party were to Attack S^r. William Johnstons house, kill or take him, and Ravage the Settlements on that part of the Mohawk River.

This Account he Said he had receiv'd from the Priest and Commanding Officer at Swegachie alias Gallette.

S^r. William Asked him how the French were as to provisions, He Said he Saw Great Plenty every where, and that the King Stores houses at Montreal were full of all Kinds. That the French had 3 Sloops, and had Built 2 Large Vessels of 2 Masts, which were ready to Navigate Lake Ontario.

S^r. William then told him, that he would have him return to Swegachie as soon as Possible, and Gather all the Intelligence he Could, and bring it to him, that this would be a determinate proof of his Fidelity and Sincere Repentance for what had past, and if he would take pains, and make himself Master, of the Strength, and Intended Operations of the French &c. he would Reward him According to the Consequence of his Intelligence from a 100 to 150 p^ces. of 8

He engaged himself for this Service, and that he would return as Soon as possible, with the fullest and best Accounts he Could Obtain.

A true Extract from the Original Minutes
Examined by me

Signed PETER WRAXALL
Sec^r. for Indian Affairs.

SIR WILLIAM JOHNSON TO THE LORDS OF TRADE.

Albany 17th July 1756.

MY LORDS.

I had the honour of writing your Lordships the latter end of May last & at the Same time of transmitting a Copy of my proceedings from the last date to that time. My proceedings at the late Onondaga meeting & at the Subsequent Treaty with the Shawnese & Delaware Indians at my

[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] be

[illegible] to me [illegible]

[illegible] the almost

[illegible]

([illegible])

[illegible] 8 May 17[illegible]

[illegible]

[illegible] Evening [illegible] came in [illegible] of [illegible] with some other Indians [illegible] with a Party of River Indians who [illegible] in the Artillery [illegible] they [illegible] themselves in the [illegible]

Mr. [illegible] Interpr.

[illegible] the [illegible] to the River Indians [illegible]

Brothers [illegible] with a Belt of Wampum [illegible] to some [illegible] but require not a sufft. Body to quiet [illegible] & [illegible] We are now [illegible] present at this our [illegible] what you have to say

[illegible] the Chiefs of the River Indians [illegible] as follows

Brother [illegible] our Inexperience in [illegible] since [illegible] we have [illegible] like a lost scattered People & the Rum we get from the English hath Drowned the [illegible] intent [illegible]

[illegible]

Uncle

We [illegible] & White [illegible], [illegible] as an Indian except his Mother was a Dutch Woman & we hope you will [illegible] him amongst the Six Nations & whatever you think proper to give him we shall be willing to replace with [illegible] [illegible] We are desirous of knowing your immediate Direction & hope you will take care of us.

Uncle

The English in our way to [illegible] where we went to [illegible] to support our Wives & Children who are in distress, [illegible] & threatened us for Murdering their [illegible] the frontiers of Pennsilvania, New Jersey & Virginia we are entirely innocent of any such [illegible] and their Suspicions [illegible] as we are an unsettled defenceless People, we were cautious in what manner to behave but we hope now you will interpose & prevent any ill effect of these Suspicions by taking Notice of us your Nephews.

[illegible] Bell

To the Chiefs [illegible] answer

Nephews

We are sensible that the little Correspondence we have had together for a great Number of years must naturally put you under some Difficulties with regard to the usual Ceremonies on public Meetings.

[illegible]

We are very willing & desirous that you should come & live near us we will grant you our assistance & protection, and our Brother Warraghiyagey has told us that he will contribute to the support of you & your Families

till

[illegible] you have a little settle

[illegible]

[illegible] to have you come they [illegible] willing [illegible] have so solicite that we may [illegible] to acquaint our Brethren the Delawares [illegible] we answer our Relation [illegible] them [illegible] [illegible] having taken [illegible] the English by a council [illegible] will find to engage [illegible] that the Delaware [illegible] to the Southward.

[illegible]

[illegible] the [illegible] Indians reply.

[illegible] have made our Hearts [illegible] in the [illegible] Promises to [illegible] uneasiness [illegible] removed

[illegible] We are light & can soon [illegible] engaged our selves to the English in the Batt[illegible] time it is not yet expired, however [illegible] have now put our selves under your protection [illegible] we will be ruled by you.

[illegible] yet answered

Brothers [illegible] your [illegible] in the Battle Service we refer that matter to our Bro.r Warra-ghiyagey & what he advises you to do therein [illegible] you conform to it will be [illegible] tory to us.

[illegible] William Johnson then spoke to the [illegible]

[illegible]

I am [illegible] that you have so

[illegible]

prudently applied to your Uncles the 6 Nations & put your selves under their protection & that they have so kindly & readily opened their Arms to receive you. As to your Engagement with the [illegible] I think tho' if you will be [illegible] & bring up your Women & Children I will give you Letters to the People in authority where your Families are that you may meet with no Molestation or hindrance in the bringing them away, and when you come up I will take care to supply your wants till you are able to do for your selves, and I join with your Uncles in Opinion that the sooner you come up the better.

gave a String Wampum

To which they replyed, that they were very thankfull for Mr Williams Promise, that they had fixt on two of their People to go down, but desired a White Man might be sent with them to prevent any Misunderstandings & to facilitate the removal of their Families.

Mr Williams told them he would send an Interpreter with them & accordingly wrote the following Letter to Jacobus Clement Interpr at Albany.

You are to accompany these River Indians to the Fish Kills & speak to the Magistrates & People in power there to give them no Molestation or hindrance but forward them on their Journey up here as their coming to live among the Mohocks will be of great service to the publick; you are to take great care that they do not get in liquor nor have any conversation with the Soldiers at Albany or

by

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[illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] they arrive at [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] one [illegible] with [illegible] in the [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] to [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

[illegible]
[illegible]

[illegible] 30 May 1751
[illegible]

[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] the [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] the [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]

Mr Montour Interp.
Canada Warriors [illegible]

[illegible] [illegible]

The [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible]
[illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] you [illegible] [illegible] about your going to Onondago [illegible] Father we are extreamly [illegible] [illegible] that [illegible] absolutely against your [illegible] [illegible] is [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] to you [illegible] or [illegible] lost & ruined People - You are the principal [illegible] that keeps the [illegible] [illegible] together. We cannot [illegible] find why the [illegible] are [illegible] urgent for your going up when the Road is so Dangerous the Governor of Canada never goes into the Indian Country to meet them but they come to wait him.

Brother [illegible] have agreed to make [illegible] [illegible] you [illegible] intreat you to give [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] that you will [illegible] one of their Elders send for the [illegible] Doers to you or let some other Person go up to them in your Room We [illegible] [illegible] [illegible] with this Belt.

gave a Belt

Sir William Johnson to the Lords of Trade.

[New-York Papers, Ll, 41.]

Fort Johnson 28th May 1756

My Lords

My last letter to your Lordships, bore date the 6th March, therewith I had the honor, to transmitt a copy of my procedings in Indian affairs from the time of my arrival from Lake George to that date

I have since received Mr Secretary Pownalls letter bearing date the 2d December, which your Lordships did me the honor to direct him to write me.

General Shirley's interfering in Indian affairs, and that with so much personal resentment, and such prejudices against my management, was a matter of as much surprize, as it was mortification to me. I had many reasons to think I stood high in that Gentlemans opinion which I had always endeavored to deserve and to strengthen

If my sense of duty to that part of His Majestys Service which his Royal Orders had entrusted to my management, had not unfortunately obliged me, to have differed with Mr Shirley in opinion, I should not have troubled your Lordships with a detail on that disagreeable subject, but as it did affect that part of His Majestys Service, I thought I could not consistent with my duty be silent to your Lordships thereon Tho' I have reason to beleive, I have lost General Shirleys friendship and confidence, which I wish myself honored with for the good of His Majestys Service, so far as it is connected with my department, yet he hath of late silenced those Agents, he set up in opposition to me, and of whose conduct I complained to your Lordships

I have the honor herewith to transmitt to your Lordships a copy of my proceedings, since the date of the last I sent

The Slaughters and devastations, which have been committed on the Frontiers of His Majestys Southern Provinces, I doubt not your Lordships have received particular accounts of from their respective Governors, it is certain that the Delawares, and Shawanese Indians have been concerned in these Hostilities

Till very lately those Indians were faithfull friends to us & lived in a peaceful and harmonious Intercourse with His Mâtys Subjects what are the several and real causes of their defection, I can not take upon me at present precisely to ascertain

I beg leave to offer to your Lordships my general opinion from all I can as yet gather on the subject

I would premise, that the Defection of the Delawares and Shawanese Indians is not general, many I beleive yet remain if not firm to our Interest, not wholly lost to it

These Indians were settled in the neighbourhood of the French encroachments on the Ohio, some were settled where the French have now actually built, Forts; when His Majestys Troops under the late General Braddock were defeated, it gave the French who remained Masters of all that part of the Country, an opportunity to strengthen and increase their Indian Interest and influence, they flattered they boasted, and by persuasive and intimidating arts they won over several of those Indians, who were before in our Interest, and some who held themselves as it were neutral till they saw how the event of that expedition would turn out; of those latter were the *Twightwees* the *Jenundadees*, and some *Chickasaws* Indians, who are as

I am lately informed fallen in with the French Interest, but I apprehend more from fear than choice

Those Delaware and Shawanese Indians who lived nearest to the Ohio, being seduced by the French, went among their bretheren who dwelt on the Susquehanna and propagated those prejudices against the good intentions of the English, which the French had furnished them with at the same time making them offers and promises from the French and magnifying their prowess, kindness and generosity, by these means they won over some, and spread a general prepossession amongst the rest against the English

The great Patents of Land which had been purchased and taken up in those parts and our extended scattered settlements beginning to crowd upon the Indians, had been a long eye sore to them, infected them with jealousy and disgust towards the English, and thus prepared them to be more easily influenced, by the prosperity of the French affairs, and the ill success of our arms, and when they saw after M^r^ Braddocks defeat and death, our military operations ended as it were to the Southward and carried to the Northward, they joined the French and their Indians in their depredations, upon the open and defenceless Frontiers of those Provinces

The third and last cause I shall suggest, is my suspicion that these Indians, who used to be more immediately under the direction of the Southern Provinces had been either neglected or injudiciously treated at that critical time when the greatest address was requisite; something of this kind is hinted in the last proceedings which I transmitted to your Lordships

These hints I humbly submit to your Lordships consideration as this is a very important affair, I apprehend I might with propriety offer my thoughts thereon; there are some other particulars relative to this subject for which I beg leave to refer your Lordships to the Papers herewith. In those your Lordships will perceive a Meeting at Onondaga was proposed by the Southern Indians in consequence of a deputation sent to them at my ernest request by the Six Nations at which I agreed to be present and named the day, but as I was from informations very doubtfull whether the Southern Indians were come to Onondago, according to their appointment, and the two Mohawk Castles with some other Indians of all the 6 Nations (except the Onondagas) were so averse to my attending this meeting at this critical juncture. I thought it would be prudent to be certain whether those Indians were actually at Onondago before I undertook my journey thither, as the meeting them was my cheif Inducement for promising to go there, Messengers were accordingly dispatched and your Lordships will see the answer they have brought from the Onondaga Indians, and that they are so extreemly pressing for my coming up, and give such cogent reasons for it that I apprehend the good of his Majestys service will not dispence with my refusal. I am therefore preparing to set off, so as to be there by the time appointed, and I have General Shirleys concurrence therein. I hope to meet some of the Delaware and Shawanese Indians there and if so to talk over and settle matters with them on such a footing as may be very beneficial to His Majestys service in General, and the tranquility of the Southern Provinces in particular. Besides this General meeting appears to be necessary on account of the uneasinesses and jealousies which the Onondagas make mention of, and which I find more or less prevails at present amongst most of the Indians of the Six Nations. One cause of which is from the Deserters of General Shirleys and Sir W^m^ Pepperils Regiments, in which are I apprehend a great number of Irish Papists and Transports who were enlisted from the back parts of Pensylvania and Mary Land, they desert from Oswego and other Garrisons up the[1] River, shelter themselves among the

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[1] this. *New-York Colonial Manuscripts*, LXXXII. — ED.

Indians of the six Nations or pass through their country in their way to the back parts of those provinces from whence they were enlisted, and where they have acquaintances and confederates, from Malice and Policy, they pretent a great affection for the Indians, and invent lying stories to justify their quitting the Service and ingratiate themselves with the Indians, who seeing they are surrounded by our present armaments, being naturally prone to suspicion, and the french continually working upon this their disposition by false and artful Representations of our views and measures, render these Reports of the Deserters more credible and pernicious. I am informed there are great numbers of them amongst the Delaware and Susquehanna Indians, who have done a world of prejudice to our Interest. I have represented this matter to General Shirley, and proposed to him to empower me to offer the Indians hand some Rewards for taking up and delivering such deserters, as may be, or may come, amongst them

Governor Morris has published a declaration of War against the Delaware and Susquehanna Indians and a small body of men are raised in that Government and marched to build a Fort at Shamokin a Branch of the Susquehanna Tho Mr Morris has worded this Declaration with Restrictions in favor of our Friend Indians, yet as it is published and this Fort building without previous notice & explanation given to our Indians it hath circulated amongst them, in a confused manner and put in a bad Light by the Ignorance and probably malice of the Reporters, and tho I am fully sensible that the horrible cruelties and Devastations which the Southern Provinces & Pensylvania [in particular], have suffered call for their most united and vigorous Resentments, yet I can not but humbly be of opinion, that M^r^ Morris' declaration of War, backed with so small a Force as the 400 men he hath raised, was premature, and that it would have been more adviseable [if] he had allowed me first to have acquainted the six Nations and our friend Indians living on the Susquehanna with his Intentions especially as Mr Morris in behalf of Pensylvania had applied to me to lay the hostile behavior of the Delawares and Shawanese before the Six Nations at the Meeting last winter and he was apprized of the deputation which the Six Nations had sent, yet before he knew the result of their Ambassy he published this Declaration of War which as a friendly meeting was agreed upon at Onondaga with a prospect of accommodating all matters with the Delawares and Shawanese at least such of them as had not left the Settlements and absolutely engaged themselves to the French I beg leave to observe to your Lordships that while affairs were thus circumstanced I think M^r^ Morris Declaration of War had better been postponed, till the Meeting at Onnondaga had been over, when a better judgement might have been formed to regulate his Proceedings

By perusing the papers herewith, I conceive your Lordships will find there is a foundation for the observations I have made on M^r^ Morris's Conduct, my sentiments on this matter I have communicated to General Shirley & S^r^ Charles Hardy who have transmitted them to Governor Morris

I have reason to beleive M^r^ Morris's Declaration of War by misrepresentations, has not only alarmed the Six Nations but will prevent the Southern Indians from coming to Onnondaga & throw fresh difficultys in the way of bringing about an accommodation, with the remainder of those Indians, who were yet in a retreivable State

An other thing before I finish this interesting subject, seems to me of sufficient importance to mention to your Lordships

The half King and some other Indians of the Six Nations were lately at Philadelphia, Governor Morris had a conference with them, acquainted them with the[1] Declaration of War, and gave them a War Belt to offer to the Six Nations in his name in order to join and assist. At the same time he allowed the heads of the Quakers, who he well knew violently opposed all his Warlike measures to have a meeting with the same Indians, they had sent me a copy of what passed and they gave the Half King a Belt of Peace to present to the Six Nations in their Name, telling them they were descendants of the peaceable Penn that there were great numbers of their Bretheren in that Province who were averse to War, and whose principles were to suffer Injuries and leave Heaven to protect and defend their Cause &c &c—

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[1] his. *New-York Colonial Manuscripts*, LXXXII. — ED.

These contradictory measures, and these opposite Belts the Half King reported, and shewed a few days ago, at a small meeting of some of all the six Nations at my house the Indians could not conceal their surprise that one Province should produce such contradictions and your Lordships will I beleive be of opinion, that it would be no great honour to our Political Talents

My Lords

I am sensible that I am taking up a great deal of your Ldps time, but if I am not greatly mistaken the subjects I have and shall lay before you are of such importance to the British Indian Interest, as will I hope justify me in your Lordships opinion

In my last letter I gave it as my real Sentiments to your Ldps that the Indians of the 6 Nations had discovered at the then late Meeting the strongest Intimations of their sincerity and fidelity, & that nothing seemed to be wanting to cement and enlarge our Indian Alliance, but unanimous and vigorous efforts against the Common Enemy; I will from no motives, my Lords, misrepresent or conceal from your Lordships what appears to me the true state of our Indian Interest

I am sorry therefore to acquaint your Lordships that the six Nations in general, and the upper Nations more particularly, do not at present seem to be animated with so warm & active a Zeal in our Favour as I could wish, & which it has been, and shall be my unremitted endeavour to inspire them with, some of their cheifs have in private conversation with me complained of our want of vigour, and good management of our Military operations, they murmured at our inactivity last campaign at Oswego, they censured the weakness and knew the deplorable state of that important Garrison towards the latter end of last winter for want of Provisions, and told me they trembled for its Fate, they reproached us for laying up our vessels the beginning of last october, and that they do not yet appear on the Lake tho the French were sailing backwards and forwards the whole winter. They were surprized the great carrying place, an other, very important post was so poorly fortified particularly at one end, and such a handfull of Troops left to protect it, they told the officers there that the French would certainly attack them, and that it was not in a condition to make a good Defence. The event has shewn they judged rightly and complained justly. They reproach us with the two Regiments laying encampt at Albany, and Schenectady, and ask why they dont march against the French

These complaints and reproaches of the Indians, I mention to your Lordships as causes of discontent to them and of their forming unfavorable ideas of our military Proceedings, which tends to damp their spirits towards us, & nourish the awe of the French which hath & doth prevail too much amongst them. I have endeavoured by every method in my Power to remove their Prejudices, but as they form their judgments from appearances only, it is an extreem difficult Task to work upon their understandings

An other cause of the Six Nations standing in so much awe of the French is the great number of Western and Northern Indians in their alliance, and which hath been greatly strengthened since our unhappy Defeat at Ohio.

These Prejudices my Lords are not the only disadvantages we have to contend with in endeavoring to raise & keep up in their minds a respectable opinion of our Power & consequence. The Cayouga and Seneca Nations are near neighbours to Niagara, the Onnondagas, and Oneidas, are in the neighbourhood of Swegachee a french settlement on the river St Lawrence, to which numbers of those two Nations have of late years been debauched and gone there to live. Tho our Indians do not now resort to those Places as frequent and familiarly as they formerly did, yet some among them do occasionally visit there, when the French and the Indians in their Interest poison the minds of ours with Stories not only to the disadvantage of our good Intentions towards them, but endeavor to frighten them with pompous accounts of the superior Prowess and martial abilities of the French. These things are propagated amongst them, and the truth really is they have had more reason to think highly of the French this way than of us

But, my Lords, notwithstanding all these drawbacks upon the Zeal & attachment of the Six Nations towards us, I am persuaded at this instant, and I hope I shall have when the approaching meeting at Onnondaga is finished stronger reasons to be persuaded that if we were now ready to go upon Action from Oswego, and things wore a formidable and favorable appearance, that the six Nations would join us with a cheerfulness & vigour which at present does not so visibly appear And I must beg leave to give it to your Lordships as my fixt opinion upon the most deliberate consideration, that the 6 Nations will never be thoroughly fixed to the British Interest and arms, untill we strike some grand stroke, and thereby convince them that we have ability to protect them and humble the French, without asserting our dignity & consequence in some such way as this; Presents and Treaties, a diligent & skillful managem^{t} may keep the Six Nations friends & allies, but will not destroy the French Influence and attachment amongst them Could we but give such a convinceing proof of our Prowess, I will take upon me to answer for the hearts & the hands of the Six Nations, and to turn them with such destructive Rage upon the French, as would soon give a new face to our affairs, for of this I am confident that the 6 Nations allmost to a man wish we had the upper hand of the French when they would not only I am persuaded exert themselves, but bring over many great & powerful Nations to the Southward and Westward, which might be facilitated by our management that way

My Lords

It would not become me to animadvert upon our military conduct here, and to take upon me to advise therein might be going beyond my Tether, but what I have said I hope comes from me in Character, and permit me my Lords to say in general, that speedy spirited and active measures are absolutely necessary, to support strengthen and extend our Indian Interest provided the sword is to be kept drawn

I have in the former part of this letter mentioned to your Ldps that I am informed the Twightwees, the Jenundadies and some of the Chickasaw Indians have been obliged to submit themselves to the French, since our defeat at the Ohio, and your Lordships will see that the Missisagas, who were invited by & promised M^{r} Shirley to meet at Oswego this summer, will not meet there, but will at any of the settlements of the 6 Nations. As the former Indians I fear dare not and the Missasagas will not meet at Oswego, I suspect the intended meeting of the Western Indians there will not take effect

It happens very unluckily that by our ships from England not arriving in the usual time this Spring, a sufficient quantity of Indian Goods, and things proper for Presents are not to be purchased I have sent to New York, Philadelphia, and Boston for several things, but can not get them

Sir Charles Hardy has consented I shall give some of the arms 600lb of Powder, and Lead in his name out of His Majestys present, sent by him to the 6 Nations. I heartily wish I had the rest of it, I wrote him there would be scarce a more favorable opportunity of giving that Present than at this Meeting

I would humbly propose to your Lordships that if His Majesty is pleased to continue me in the superintendancy of Indian affairs that I may be allowed to order such assortments of Indian Goods from England as are proper for the Service I am convinced this will be a saving method to the Crown, and that the Indians will be much better supplied—The Presents which Governors have brought from England have been ill sorted, many articles bad in their kind, and some useless, particularly that essential article of arms

On my return from Onnondaga, I shall transmitt your Lordships Copy of my Proceedings there and give you such further intelligence as may occur

I am
My Lords
most respectfully y^r
Lordships
most obedient most
humble Servant
W^m Johnson

P S

Forts are now building in the Senecas country, at Onnondaga, Oneida, & Schohare The Cayuga Indians have not yet applied The Fort for the Oghguagees is upon the acc^t of the disturbances to the Southward deferred till the meeting at Onondaga is over.

The words within brackets in the preceding letter, are from the copy in *New-York Colonial Manuscripts.* LXXXII.—Ed.

Journal of Sir William Johnson's Indian Transactions. March—May, 1756.

[New-York Papers, Ll, No. 42.]

March the 5^th 1756

As the Bunt and several of the Onnondaga Nation returned from Albany they made the following short speech

Canad[illegible]ck Speaker

William Printup Interpreter

Brother Warraghiyagey

As you were so good the other day to promise we should have a Fort in our Country we were thankful to you for it, since that time we have considered the benefit it may be to us,